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We work on collective decision, says Chouhan

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When Aadhaar authentication hit hurdles

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Israel to begin 4-hour pauses in Gaza

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Acknowledge India's economic successes too

'Fastest-growing major economy' tag has basis

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ON THE CUSP

Kiwis beat Sri Lanka, boost semifinal hopes

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NEARBY

Over 55,000 IMA investors get second tranche of refunds

BENGALURU
Over 55,000 investors received part IMA refunds as per the equitable distribution formula, approved by the city court, to share the ₹69.46 crore available with the competent authority after sale of movable assets, to investors. » PAGE 8

Fresh caste census sought

BENGALURU
Shortly after Vokkaligara Sangha, the All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha has also taken objection to the caste census, and demanded that the State government not accept its report. » PAGE 9

METROPLUS » 4 PAGES

Ethics panel recommends disqualification of Moitra

Six members, including suspended Congress MP Praneet Kaur, vote in favour of report while four MPs oppose it; report to be tabled on Dec. 4; panel also proposes 'intense', 'legal' probe by the govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha Ethics Committee on Thursday adopted a report recommending the expulsion of Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra from the Lower House over a "cash-for-query" allegation. Six members, including suspended Congress MP Praneet Kaur, voted in favour of the report while four Opposition MPs opposed it.

The opposing members have filed dissent notes calling it a "fixed match" and saying the complaint filed by BJP MP Nishikant Dubey, which the panel reviewed, was not supported by a "shred of evidence".

The report will be now tabled before the Lok Sabha on the first day of the Winter Session of Parliament scheduled to begin on December 4. Ms. Moitra can be expelled only if the House votes in favour of the panel's recommendation. This is the first time, since the Ethics Committee came into existence in the year 2000, that the panel has recommended expulsion of a Parliamentarian.

"We will present the report to the Lok Sabha Speaker and he will take it forward," committee chairman and BJP MP Vinod Kumar Sonkar told reporters at the end of the meeting.

The panel "in view of highly objectionable, unethical, heinous and criminal conduct", recommended "intense, legal, institutional inquiry by Government of India [GOI]" in a time-bound manner.

CONTINUED ON
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Even if they expel me in this Lok Sabha, I will be back in the next Lok Sabha with a bigger mandate... This is a pre-fixed match by a kangaroo court, which is of no surprise or consequence
MAHUA MOITRA
Trinamool Congress MP

Trinamool flays panel's stance

KOLKATA
The Trinamool Congress leadership on Thursday questioned why the Ethics Committee of Parliament was not taking up allegations against Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MPs. It threw its weight behind Mahua Moitra, and stated that the MP was "competent enough to fight her own battle". » PAGE 16

Bihar House passes Bill raising ceiling on caste quota to 65%

Amarnath Tewary
PATNA

The Bihar Assembly on Thursday unanimously passed a Bill to increase reservation for Backward Classes, Extremely Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes from the existing 50% to 65%. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar assured House members that his government would implement the provisions of the Bill as soon as possible.

Together with the 10% Economically Backward Class (EWS) quota, the Bill will push reservation in Bihar to 75%, well past the 50% ceiling set by the Supreme Court.

According to the legislation, named the Bihar Reservation Amendment Bill, quota for Extremely Backward Class (EBC) will be raised from the existing 18% to 25%; for Backward Class (BC) from 12% to 18%; for Scheduled Caste (SC) from 16% to 20%; and for Scheduled Tribe (ST), the quota will be doubled, from 1% to 2%. The existing 3% reservation for BC women has been scrapped.

Nitish Kumar

Bills providing for the same increase in reservation in educational institutions and government jobs, which were drafted based on the recent caste survey in the State, too were passed unanimously through voice vote in the Assembly.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 16

Special team formed to check illegal borewells in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has formed a special team, which includes officers of the Karnataka Ground Water Authority, to check illegal borewells in Bengaluru Urban district. It has been constituted following several complaints regarding unauthorised borewells being dug in the city, especially on the outskirts like Whitefield, leading to overexploitation of the already depleting groundwater table.

"It is true that of late permission is not being obtained to dig borewells in Bengaluru Urban district. This must stopped as there are many complaints," said Minor Irrigation Minister N.S. Bose Raju.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 3

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Kuldeep has reinvented himself, started spinning success stories again

The practitioner of left-arm leg-spin, a difficult craft to master, underwent a fallow phase after a promising start to his career, suffered a knee injury that required surgery, before glowing again with a polished hue; the Chinaman bowler has a tally of 12 wickets in eight games at an average of 22.58 so far in this World Cup

K.R. DEEPAK

K.C. Vijaya Kumar

Spin, the art that infuses both meditative and seductive nuances to a whirring sphere, be it red or white, is part of cricket's infinite charm. If the muscular art of fast bowling taps into our inner cave-man rhythms, not that the speed merchants aren't into nuance, there is a certain primitive element innate to the sultans of swing.

But the twirly men offering flight, loop, dip and turn, add a certain value to cricket. This is life in slow motion but with its own share of magic. And among the varied segments of spin, wrist-spin, officially known as leg-spin, is a difficult art to master. Leg-spin's foundation rests on a clean action.

You hardly see a leg-spinner called for chucking and that's because bowling leg-spin is akin to hurling a discus, wherein the elbow cannot be bent. This is unlike off-spin where the fingers are employed more than the wrist and a tendency to bend the elbow can creep in. Truth is, in real life when we all throw a ball, we bend our elbows to generate pace, that is the natural order of things.

Discus throw or leg-spin or bowling at large with its emphasis on not bending the elbow goes against muscle memory and whatever athleticism our genes have imparted to us. Even if the ICC has given a fine-print of degrees of permissible bending not ideally seen by the naked eye, bowling without bending the elbow is mandatory.

Leg-spin takes the bending-the-elbow proposition out of the equation, but equally it is prone to a lack of control. The practitioners of this art tend to go for runs while taking wickets; legends like the late Shane Warne and Anil Kumble could be the exceptions but point is even the finest of leg-spinners have been taken to the cleaners. Vinod Kambli once tucked into Warne, a young Sachin Tendulkar waded into Abdul Qadir.

If leg-spin is difficult, imagine the Chinaman, the left-arm leg-spinner! The penchant for errors quadruples and it is in this most difficult skillset that India has unearthed a diamond, rough-cut in the beginning, but finally glowing now with a polished hue. Kuldeep Yadav, with his Kanpur roots and under-19 exploits, was fast-tracked into the Indian squad. And while R. Ashwin ruled the roost in Tests, Kuldeep and Yuzvendra Chahal, a traditional leg-spinner, forged a tango that led to a culinary name - Kul-Cha!

Chahal lost his way a wee bit in recent times, but Kuldeep has survived. Importantly, he has prospered. He is India's primary spinner in the shorter versions with Ravindra Jadeja being his accomplice, a combination that is very much the fizz and the tight lid.

Having made his India debut back in 2017, Kuldeep now has finally cemented his place. The initial promise and the manner in which he puzzled all batters, gave way to a fallow phase when he failed to hoodwink his rivals. Used to a 45 degree turn while ambling towards the bowling crease, Kuldeep, for all his flight and turn, had turned a touch slow, allowing batters to read him off the air and the pitch. They could be in position for the turn and stagnancy crept in.

A knee injury that demanded surgery laid him low, but that break retrospectively did wonders to him, both as a player and as a person. While recuperating and plotting his way back, he straightened his run-up a bit more, got his body more involved in the final release and that combined to increase the pace of his delivery. The temptation would be to ask but aren't spinners supposed to be slow?

Yes, they ought to be slow but not at such a languid rate wherein a batter could read a book, whip up an omelette and then strike a six. A smidgeon of pace is essential to the spin armour, as Kumble made it obvious through his storied career. Kuldeep 2.0 has upped his speed, delivers on the money, leaves no room for batters to second-guess, and that translates into brushing edges, rapping pads and nudging stumps.

The angles that Kuldeep conjures and the accuracy that Jadeja dispenses have meant that India has largely enforced the middle-over strangle on the opposition through this World Cup. Recently, coach Rahul Dravid said that the spin-duo has strangely gone under the radar while encomiums are heaped on the pace trio of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Mohammed Shami.

Ever since he put behind the trauma of injury, the stress over being dropped and the self-doubts that crept in during a dull point, Kuldeep has been a different man. A naughty lad still lingers within him, the kind who will tell a press photographer to get some good pictures of his batting stints in the nets. He always has an impish grin, like a child about to dab some ketchup sauce on your spotless cream shirt.

The naughtiness has crept into his bowling too, leaving batters perplexed. He has the wrong one that turns away besides all the classical deliveries. Even if the odd half-tracker may be peddled, and most leg-spinners are guilty of this due to the rigidity of their bowling action, Kuldeep, the Chinaman, has kept it largely tight. In this World Cup, he has had yields of two for 42, one for 40, two for 35, one for 47, two for 73, two for 24, zero for three and two for seven.

The cumulative tally is 12 at an average of 22.58, fine numbers even if the two for 73 against New Zealand may be deemed an aberration. Even in that game at Dharamshala, he came back well in his second spell. Back then, with Hardik Pandya ruled out due to injury, Rohit Sharma had no luxury of a sixth bowler and there was no respite for Kuldeep, who bravely countered the Black Caps. Spinners also need a big heart because there will be days when they will get hit, Kuldeep surely has one.

Like the earlier Ashwin-Harbhajan Singh fault-lines, a reality of the predecessor-successor trends in life, Kuldeep too was drawn into this when some years back, previous coach Ravi Shastri named him as India's best overseas spinner. The 28-year-old has thankfully steered clear of needless angst or words, and instead has sharpened his craft, a mighty difficult one at that.

He and Jadeja, along with the pace troika, ensured that India has remained unbeaten so far in this World Cup. Kuldeep may not be a frog-in-the-blender like South Africa's former spinner Paul Adams, but he has enough mystique to bamboozle the best in the business.

All bowling boils down to a good rhythm where the limbs and the mind are in tandem and life is imparted to the ball as it leaves the hand. It is akin to the zone that well-set batters refer to. Kuldeep seems to be in that space and India can only thank its sporting gods.

There will be the odd bad day of bruising sixes, but Kuldeep seems mature enough to handle it. And hey what about some runs? "I would love to score 15 to 20 runs for my team," he said. Surely, he doesn't want to be a one-trick pony.

THE GIST

- The practitioners of wrist-spin tend to go for runs while taking wickets; legends like the late Warne and Kumble could be the exceptions
- Kuldeep has the wrong one that turns away besides all the classical deliveries
- Kuldeep and Jadeja, along with the pace troika, has ensured that India has remained unbeaten in this World Cup

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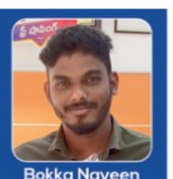

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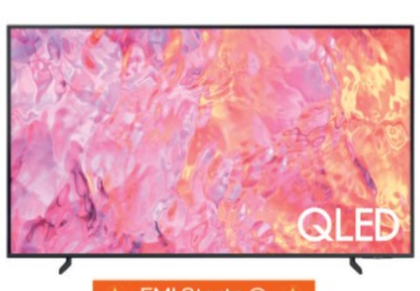

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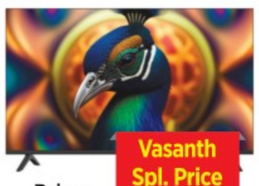
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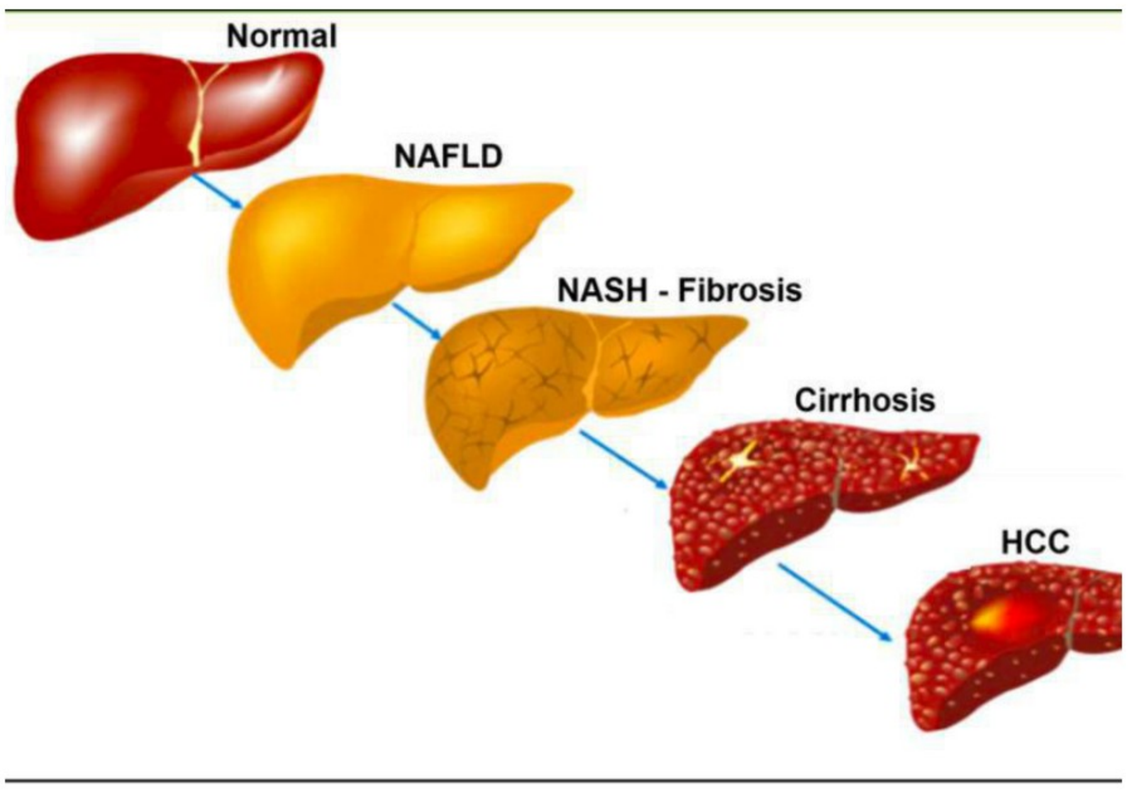
Considering the impact of diabetes on your liver

November 14 will be observed across the world as Diabetes Day. A senior diabetologist delves into an emerging concern related to his field — the liver. The path ahead is to adopt a more wide, metabolic based care, he says

V. Mohan



The prevalence of diabetes is growing rapidly all over the world and in India. According to a recent ICMR-INDIAB Study published by us in the *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinology*, the number of people with diabetes in India now stands at 101 million. In addition, there are 136 million people with prediabetes. It is well known that uncontrolled diabetes can lead to complications affecting the eye, kidney, heart, feet and nerves. However, the relationship between diabetes and the liver is not well appreciated and only recently has this link been emphasised.

So, what is the connection between diabetes and the liver?

The liver is a store house or a factory for various products and one of them is glucose. When there is excess glucose in the body, it gets deposited in the liver as glycogen. Moreover, the excess fat in the blood circulation (triglycerides and free fatty acids) also gets deposited in the liver and this is called 'Fatty Liver'.

Epidemiological studies at the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation have shown that over 50% of people with type 2 diabetes have some degree of fatty liver. When there is excess fat in the liver, this leads to a condition called 'Hepatic Insulin Resistance'. What this means is that the body's insulin cannot function properly and that the action of insulin in the liver is considerably reduced. This leads to increased release of glucose from the liver, which is referred to as 'Hepatic Glucose Production'. The early morning increase in glucose levels i.e. increase in the fasting plasma glucose is mainly attributed to this increased hepatic glucose production.

The relationship between fatty liver and type 2 diabetes is bidirectional. Thus, fatty liver can lead to type 2 diabetes and type 2 diabetes can promote fatty liver. Our studies have shown that if both obesity and diabetes are present, over 80% of such individuals will have fatty liver. While fatty liver by itself is not dangerous, very often it leads to inflammation of the liver, a condition known as Non-alcoholic 'Steatohepatitis' or NASH. Up to this stage it is probably reversible. However, at the next stage, it can progress to cirrhosis of the liver which is irreversible and can be fatal. Some people with cirrhosis of the liver even go on to develop hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC). The link between diabetes, fatty liver, cirrhosis and HCC is being increasingly recognised.

Today non-alcoholic fatty liver (NAFLD) is recognised as a complication of diabetes and also as a cause of diabetes. Recently there is a shift in the treatment of diabetes from a glucose centric approach, to a wider metabolic based care. Indeed, 'diabetes care' is slowly evolving into 'metabolic care' with the liver taking centre stage, along with the heart and kidney. Thus, while choosing antidiabetic medications, those beneficial to the liver, heart and kidneys are preferred.

> The relationship between fatty liver and type 2 diabetes is bidirectional. Thus, fatty liver can lead to type 2 diabetes and type 2 diabetes can promote fatty liver

Recently the close association of metabolic syndrome (a term used to refer to a combination of diabetes, hypertension and central obesity) and NAFLD has been recognised and internationally, the term NALFD is being replaced with 'Metabolic dysfunction-associated fatty liver disease' (MAFLD).

How can we treat MAFLD?

The best way is lifestyle modification. A healthy diet consisting of less calories, carbohydrate and fat but more vegetable protein and fibre is a powerful tool to lose weight and treat excess fat in the liver. Adequate exercise (e.g. walking, jogging, swimming etc.) along with yoga can also help shed extra kilograms. It has been shown in research trials, that by profound calorie restriction (about 800 calories /day), excess fat in the liver can melt away even within a week! This can lead to reversal of diabetes and other metabolic abnormalities within a few days or weeks, even before significant weight loss is achieved.

Today, we also have specific medicines which can help reduce fatty liver and reverse liver changes even at the NASH stage. It is therefore important to identify early changes in the liver to prevent progression to its more advanced stages like cirrhosis or carcinoma. Apart from check ups for eyes, kidneys, heart, feet and nerves, the liver should also be included in the annual work up of all individuals with diabetes. This is my wish on the occasion of World Diabetes Day 2024.

(Dr. Mohan is Chairman, Dr. Mohan's Diabetes Specialities Centre and Madras Diabetes Research Foundation, Chennai. drmohans@diabetes.ind.in)

A high fibre diet has a positive impact on diabetes. GETTYIMAGES/ISTOCK PHOTO

Does a diet high in fibre help manage blood sugar levels?

Zubeda Hamid

Healthy diets are unaffordable for a large number of people who rely on cheaper, carb-heavy foods, thereby contributing to the diabetes burden

Reduce sugar is the catch phrase heard frequently to manage diabetes, so much so that as the festive season approaches, sweet shops are bringing out low-sugar delicacies. 'Natural', 'no sugar' and 'diabetic friendly' options abound -- a testament to the staggering numbers India is dealing with.

What happens though, when you add a significant quantity of fibre to your diet when you have diabetes? A survey attempted to find the answer.

'STAR'(Survey for Management of Diabetes with Fibre-rich Nutrition Drink), a pan-India survey, was conducted amongst 3,042 people with Type 2 diabetes, the results were published in the *Indian Journal of Clinical Practice* in August.

The survey categorised people with diabetes into two groups: one group that consumed medical-grade high-fibre supplement for a minimum of three months, and the other group that did not.

It found that people with diabetes who took the supplement, reported significantly lower HbA1C (blood sugar) levels and higher weight loss, along with feelings of satiety, compared to those who did not consume the supplement.

The survey was supported by Hindustan Unilever, a company that sells health food drinks.

Increasing the fibre in your diet to manage diabetes is nothing new: studies across the world have shown the role of fibre in not just controlling blood glucose, but also lowering cholesterol, and maintaining digestive health. Because the body cannot absorb and break down fibre, it helps with a slow, sustained release of energy, preventing a spike in blood sugar levels. It also helps your gut microbiome, and increases your feeling of being 'full.'

The problem is, says Sanjay Kalra, president, South Asian Federation of Endocrine Societies and lead author of the survey, most people with diabetes do not get the required amount of fibre.

The Research Society for Study of Diabetes in India (RSSDI), in its Clinical Practice Recommendations 2022 for medical nutrition therapy, states that fibre intake should be 25 to 40 grams per day, while carbohydrates should be limited to 50-60% of total calories.

However, in Indian diet, carbohydrates are 70 to 80%, says Dr Kalra. "This is was not an issue earlier, with traditional diets that relied on whole grains. Now fibre consumption has decreased while carbohydrate remains the same. What is concerning, is that a lot of the carbohydrates are from ultra-processed food."

What constitutes fibre?

According to an article on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website, fibre is soluble and insoluble. Both have health benefits.

Soluble fibre dissolves in water and slows down digestion. It helps control blood sugar and cholesterol. It is found in fruits like apples, bananas and guavas, and in oats, peas, carrots, black beans, kidney beans and figs.

The other kind, insoluble fibre, does not dissolve, and typically remains whole as it passes through your stomach. It supports insulin sensitivity and helps keep your bowels healthy. It is found in whole wheat flour, nuts, seeds, lentil and vegetables like cauliflower.

The cost factor

Fruits, vegetables and nuts are more expensive compared to carbohydrates, points out Nihal Thomas, senior professor, department of endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism, Christian Medical College, Vellore.

This, he said, makes healthy diets unaffordable for a large number of people in the country who rely on cheaper, carb-heavy foods, thereby contributing to the diabetes burden -- 10.13 crore people in our country of 140 crore could potentially be diabetic, as per latest estimates.

Prof Thomas called for policy changes to make healthier foods more affordable.

Incorporating in the diet

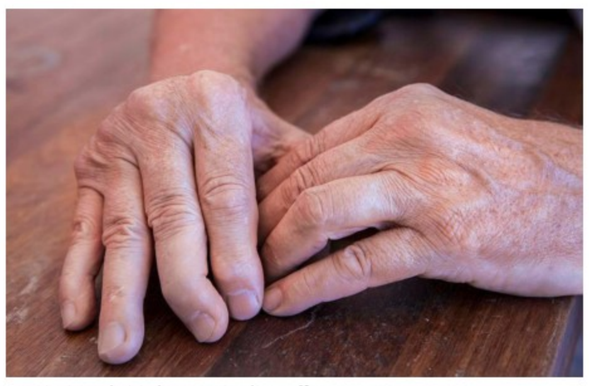
25 to 40 grams of fibre per day may sound daunting, especially when you realise that one medium apple, with its skin, has only about 3 to 4 grams of fibre.

The idea, says the CDC, is to spread your fibre intake among different foods throughout the day. This may perhaps mean incorporating oats and nuts into your breakfast, opting for whole grains, choosing non-starchy vegetables and snacking on seeds. But it also cautions people to make this move slowly: too much fibre too soon, can lead to bloating and constipation. And remember, drink lots of water!

(Zubeda.h@thehindu.co.in)

Psoriasis patients contend with lack of awareness, bad lifestyle choices and poor insurance cover

R. Sujatha



Psoriatic arthritis has a crippling effect. GETTY IMAGES

This year's theme for World Psoriasis Day observed was 'Access for all'. Dermatologists treating psoriasis say lack of awareness about the condition and treatment leads to stigmatisation, even pushing people to consider ending their lives.

Psoriasis is an autoimmune disease that manifests as rashes usually on the face, elbows, knees and later spreads across the skin. There are many kinds of psoriasis and among them the most common is psoriasis vulgaris. But there are also severe manifestations, leaving patients bed-ridden or with gnarled fingers. The condition could be inherited, as in the case of V. Harish, 56, who was first diagnosed with arthritic psoriasis 15 years ago. He is among the 30% of patients who have joint involvements.

He underwent physiotherapy to stem further damage to his gnarled fingers. "My father also had psoriatic arthritis. Your lifestyle, food habits matter. I can tell you stress is a solid trigger," he said. Post-retirement he invested heavily in a cooperative bank in Bengaluru which later declared bankruptcy. The stressful situation triggered a relapse, Mr. Harish recalled.

"The medication is very expensive, but I was covered under group insurance. I had to take injections costing Rs. 35,000 every fortnight. I needed seven to eight doses before I could function reasonably. I am on tablets now but over the years we become resistant to medicines and the condition relapses," said Mr. Harish, among the lucky few whose family stood by him even when he was bed-ridden.

For 32-year-old G. Arun Kumar, who was diagnosed nearly three years ago, it has been a struggle. "People will not talk to me easily. They will avoid sitting with me at the same table during lunch. They think I have skin cancer as there are red patches on my face and hands," he said. His mother died of COVID-19 in April 2021 and in October that year, he was diagnosed with psoriasis. Medication has controlled the spread. Ever since he began cooking his food at home he has better control over his condition. "For the past three months I have started cooking and it has helped as I don't eat outside. A fever or stress aggravates the disease," he added.

Muralidhar Rajagopalan, senior consultant dermatologist at Apollo Hospitals, Chennai says the non-communicable auto immune disease occurs due to inflammation as the body attacks the skin through various mediators, for various reasons. "The lifestyle induced disease can be mitigated by exercise and controlling obesity. Alcohol and smoking worsen psoriasis," he said. "Change in lifestyle in our country could be a reason cases are increasing. Increased awareness has resulted in more patients seeking help."

Psoriasis is mediated by signals of inflammation exchanged by cells called interleukins and cytokines. Abdominal fat produces adipokines, interleukin 6 and TNF alpha, all of which adversely affect the outcome of psoriasis. "Losing this fat and maintaining ideal weight is vital. I advise exercise and diet control, low carb diet, avoiding sugar and dairy foods," Dr. Muralidhar said.

Psoriasis is also linked to cardiovascular events, as certain cytokines and TNF alpha affect blood vessels producing atherosclerotic blocks. "Patients are prone to diabetes, abnormal lipids and hypertension adds to it. Many of them are unable to exercise. More aggressive inflammation worsens the risk of all associated morbid events," added Dr. Muralidhar who represents the International Psoriasis Council in India.

In developed countries insurance covers treatment for severe psoriasis whereas in India it is still regarded as a cosmetic disease, the exception being joint involvement. "A proper disease registry, making psoriasis reportable and mentioning associated disabilities will help," he pointed out.

M. Girish, former head of Skin and STD in Rajaji Nagar ESIC in Bengaluru explained that the epidermis has five layers and it takes 40 to 50 days to complete a cycle for dead cells to be replaced. In psoriatic patients it is reduced to 10 days.

Recently transferred to Kerala, he said 10% of the patients he sees have psoriasis. Generally, more men than women have the condition with 15-20% chances of an offspring contracting it, if one parent is affected. "Psoriasis worsens in winter and many medications can trigger or induce psoriasis," he said.

Sonia Feroz, director and consultant dermatologist at Serene Derma in Thiruvananthapuram explained that psoriasis is a disease spectrum whose treatment cost could depend on the stage and type of disease.

"The common manifestation is a simple form, but it is a complex reaction between your innate immunity and adapted immunity. There are some triggers - smoking, alcohol, drugs, vaccination... if you are playing with your immunity, they could induce psoriasis," she cautioned.

(Sujatha.r@thehindu.co.in)

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Whitefield residents unhappy with survey of illegal borewells

The Karnataka Ground Water Authority, which has begun the exercise, has allegedly categorised borewells dug by PG accommodations as 'domestic' and they don't need to take permission

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

It was residents of Whitefield who took up cudgels against rampant digging of illegal borewells in the area, which forced the State government to form a special team to check the menace in the city. The Karnataka Ground Water Authority (KGWA) has already begun a survey of borewells in Whitefield and the modalities of this survey have drawn ire of local residents.

The KGWA, during the survey, has allegedly categorised borewells dug by paying guest (PG) accommodations as "domestic" and don't need to take permission from them. However, PG accommodations need to avail permits from the civic body and are considered a commercial activity.

The special team is also expected to survey other illegal borewells, mostly dug for commercial exploitation by water tanker businesses. FILE PHOTO

In Whitefield, the PGs which are mushrooming at a fast pace are busy drilling borewells to cater to the water needs of residents.

Activist Sandeep Anirudhan, who spearheaded the campaign against illegal borewells, said they were surprised to see KGWA terming PGs "domestic". "It's sad that officials of the regulatory body themselves have no clarity on the rules," he said.

Minor Irrigation Minister N.S. Bose Raju speaking to *The Hindu* confirmed that PG buildings were "commercial" and he will take suitable action against illegal borewells dug by them. Meanwhile, the special team is also expected to survey other illegal borewells, several of them coming up on empty sites, mostly for commercial exploitation by water tanker businesses and take action against them.

From Page One

Special team formed to check illegal borewells in Bengaluru

"The special team will look into this. They have been told to conduct random and surprise checks of the borewells in the city," the Minister said.

Confusion, lax enforcement

Those digging borewells in independent residential plots have to get permission from the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), and those for high-rises and other commercial purposes from the Karnataka Ground Water Authority, which is the regulatory authority to take penal action against violators.

The multiplicity of agencies has led to confusion and lax enforcement.

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U.S. corporate bankruptcies amid sticky inflation in 2023

561 There were 50 corporate bankruptcy petitions in October. Four companies with over $1 billion in liabilities filed for bankruptcy last month. Bankruptcies by U.S. companies jumped. REUTERS

Factories closed as garment workers protest in Bangladesh

100 Up to 25,000 garment workers clashed with police in Bangladesh on Thursday as protests rejecting a government-offered pay rise forced the closure of factories outside Dhaka. AFP

Pakistan releases Indian fisherman from Karachi jail

80 The Indian fishermen were released under the ongoing drive of the Pakistani government to expel illegal foreign immigrants and nationals from the country. PTI

Earth had the hottest months in recorded history

12 About 7.3 billion people, or 90% of humanity, endured at least 10 days of high temperatures because of climate change according to a report by Climate Central. AP

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The Agartala-Akhaura rail link

How will this rail link benefit the travel time and distance between Agartala and Kolkata? What is the importance of Nischintapur in West Tripura in the context of this project? How long has the idea of the Agartala-Akhaura rail link been in discussions between the two countries?

EXPLAINER

Saptaparno Ghosh

The story so far:

On November 1, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina virtually inaugurated the rail link between Agartala and Akhaura (in Bangladesh). It serves to re-establish connectivity between Bangladesh and India's northeast through Tripura. "Through this link, States of northeast India can also be connected to ports of Bangladesh," Mr Modi stated. Bangladeshi PM Ms. Hasina too highlighted that the long-awaited project would help energise connectivity and commerce in India's northeast and Bangladesh.

What is the rail link about?

The 12.24 km long rail line constituting of about 6.78 km dual gauge rail line in Bangladesh and 5.46 km in Tripura, would link the latter to Akhaura in its immediate neighbourhood and thereby, its broader rail network. Nischintapur in West Tripura would serve as the international immigration station, that is, provide facilities to process immigration-related scrutiny for passengers. Additionally, in September, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) had declared Nischintapur as a Land Customs Station (LCS). It refers to any notified place meant for the clearance of goods imported or to be exported by land or inland water.

Other than the international transit, once completely operational, the project would also reduce the travel time between Agartala and Kolkata from about 31 hours at present to 10 hours. The existing commute distance between the two cities is 1,581 km and a requires a re-route via Guwahati and Lumding in Assam. This would be curtailed to 460 km.

"The Akhaura-Agartala rail link which will reduce the travel time and distance between India's Northeastern States and Kolkata by providing connectivity through Bangladesh, helps realise the potential of this physical continuity," Sohini Bose, Associate Fellow for Neighbourhood Studies at the Strategic Studies Programme of the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in Kolkata told *The Hindu*. Furthermore, she states, "it will also help India to access the Port of Chattogram in Bangladesh through shorter routes and thus benefit overseas trade."

Shared progress: People gather as the Akhaura-Agartala rail link enters the Indo-Bangladesh border during its trial run, at Nischintapur, in Agartala. ANI

The project also is in continued adherence to the Central government's 'Act East Policy' and 'Neighbourhood First Policy'. As was pointed out by the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) earlier, it would help the growth of small-scale industries in the border area, boost tourism in Northeast India and more importantly, help local producers with quicker import and export of items.

In June, NFR had anticipated the project would be completed at a total cost of ₹862.58 crore on the Indian side. Ministry for the Development of the Northeast Region provided the funds. In addition to this, India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) provided the Bangladeshi government an assistance of ₹392.52 crore for work on the other side. The construction on the Indian side was done by public sector enterprise Indian Railways Construction International Ltd with Texmaco Rail and Engineering working on the Bangladeshi side.

How many connectivity routes are operational now?

As of now, five broad gauge connectivity routes are operational entailing links with Bangladesh - all of them from West Bengal. These include Gede railway station (West Bengal) to Darsana (Bangladesh), Benapole to Petrapole (West Bengal), Singhabad (West Bengal) to Rohanpur, Radhikapur (West Bengal) to Birol and Haldibari (West Bengal) to Chilahati. Work is underway to connect Mahihasan railway station in Assam to Shahbazpur in Bangladesh.

The memorandum of understanding for the Agartala-Akhaura rail link was signed in 2010 during Ms. Hasina's visit to India. In fact, ORF in a 2015 report on India-Bangladesh connectivity, had observed that past records revealed the rail link was suggested as far back as 1974 with the signing of a protocol between the two countries for cross-traffic movement. "The idea then became dormant and would only be revived many years later, during Trade Review Talks between India and Bangladesh in December 1998," the report held.

Trade between the two countries have been on a consistent growth trajectory. There is an interchange of close to 100 cargo trains per month and approximately 2.66 metric tonnes were sent to Bangladesh in the previous financial year. The major commodities of export include stone, food grains, China clay, gypsum, maize, onion and other essential items, as and when required, from India.

As for people-to-people ties, it is facilitated by three passenger trains, namely, Kolkata-Dhaka Maitree Express, Kolkata-Khulna Bandhan Express and New Jalpaiguri-Dhaka Mitali Express.

Is there a particular focus on rail connectivity?

India's MEA had observed in a November 2022 note, that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the two countries stepped up their rail cooperation. This was because trade via land border faced abnormal disruption. Therefore, rail emerged as a "preferred, cost-effective and environment-friendly mode for cross-border transportation of essential commodities".

Furthermore, the Asian Development Bank Institute in a blog (July 2022) while enumerating developments in cross-border rail logistics, observed that following the success of movement of goods by rail, a parcel train service was introduced between India and Bangladesh. The low carrying capacity of these trains opened opportunities for export of smaller quantities of goods such as chemicals and textiles, among other things. The container train services and automobile cargo movement were also initiated.

According to Ms. Bose, the pandemic has taught countries "a lesson on the importance of supply chains". "It has consequently added fresh vigour to connectivity projects between India and Bangladesh of which railways are an important sector. Advancing Port and Road connectivity is also important for both countries and efforts to improve both are underway along with the railway initiatives," she said.

(With inputs from Kallol Bhattacherjee)

THE GIST

- In November, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the Agartala-Akhaura rail link, connecting India's northeast with Bangladesh.
- The rail link consists of a 12.24 km dual gauge rail line, reducing travel time between Agartala and Kolkata from 31 hours to 10 hours.
- The project aims to enhance connectivity, boost trade, and strengthen ties between the two countries.
- It supports India's 'Act East Policy' and 'Neighbourhood First Policy' and promotes small-scale industries and tourism in the region.
- The project cost was around ₹862.58 crore on the Indian side, with funding from various sources.
- The idea of the rail link dates back to 1974 and gained momentum in 2010 when the memorandum of understanding was signed.

Why has the govt. issued a directive on deepfakes?

How do deepfakes work and what is the technology behind them? What are the implications of the increasing use of deepfakes by cybercriminals and scammers?

Nabeel Ahmed

The story so far:

On 8 November, the Indian government instructed "social media intermediaries" to remove morphed videos or deepfakes from their platforms within 24 hours of a complaint being filed, in accordance with a requirement outlined in the IT Rules 2021. The instructions came as deepfake videos of actors Rashmika Mandanna and Katrina Kaif surfaced online within the span of one week.

What are deepfakes?

Deepfakes have been around since 2017 and refer to videos, audios or images created using a form of artificial intelligence called deep learning. The term became popular when a Reddit contributor used publicly available AI-driven software to impose the faces of celebrities onto the bodies of people in pornographic videos. Fast forward to 2023, deepfake tech, with the help of AI tools, allows semi and unskilled individuals to create fake content with morphed audio-visual clips and images. Researchers have observed a 230% increase in deepfake usage by cybercriminals and scammers, and have predicted the technology would replace phishing in a couple of years, Cyfirma, a cybersecurity company said.

How does deepfake technology work?

The technology involves modifying or creating images and videos using a machine learning technique called generative adversarial network (GAN). The AI-driven software detects and learns the subjects' movements and facial expressions from the source material and then duplicates these in another video or image. To ensure that the deepfake created is as close to real as possible, creators use a large database of source images. This is why more deepfake videos are created of public figures, celebrities and politicians. The dataset is then used by one software to create a fake video, while a second software is used to detect signs of forgery in it. Through the collaborative work of the two software, the fake video is rendered until the second software package can no longer detect the forgery. This is known as "unsupervised learning", when machine-language models teach themselves. The method makes it difficult for other software to identify deepfakes.

What do laws in India say about deepfakes?

India's IT Rules, 2021 require that all content reported to be fake or produced using deep fake be taken down by intermediary platforms within 36 hours.

The Indian IT ministry has also issued notices to social media platforms stating that impersonating online was illegal under Section 66D of the Information Technology Act of 2000. The IT Rules, 2021, also prohibit hosting any content that impersonates another person and requires social media firms to take down artificially morphed images when alerted.

Why do people create deepfake content?

The technology could potentially be used to incite political violence, sabotage elections, unsettle diplomatic relations, and spread misinformation. This technology can also be used to humiliate and blackmail people or attack organisations by presenting false evidence. However, deepfakes have positive usages as well. The technology has been used by the ALS Association in collaboration with a company to use voice-cloning technology to help people with ALS digitally recreate their voices in the future.

How have other countries reacted?

The EU has issued guidelines for the creation of an independent network of fact-checkers to help analyse the sources and processes of content creation. The U.S. has also introduced the bipartisan Deepfake Task Force Act to counter deepfake technology.

THE GIST

- The Indian government has instructed social media intermediaries to remove deepfake videos within 24 hours, as required by the IT Rules 2021.
- Deepfakes are created using artificial intelligence, allowing individuals to manipulate audio-visual content with relative ease.
- Cybercriminals and scammers have increasingly used deepfakes, leading to concerns about their potential to replace phishing in the future.
- Deepfake technology involves the use of generative adversarial networks (GANs) to modify or create images and videos by learning and duplicating subjects' movements and facial expressions.

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*Based on Face Wash category data for All India (U+R) as per Kantar Worldpanel India MAT June'23 certificate dated 10/10/2023
^Original refers to first facewash launched by Himalaya.

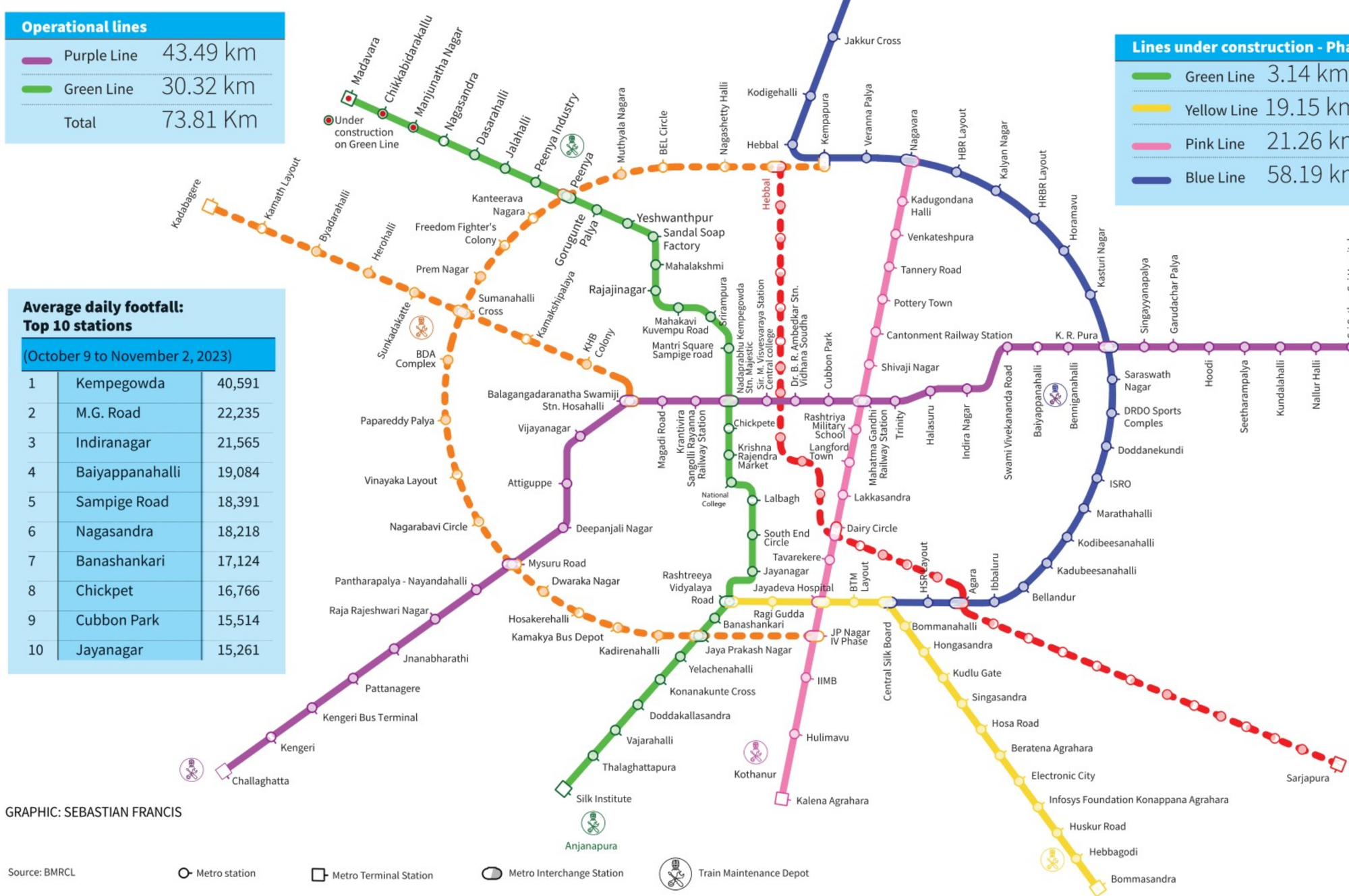
J BG-BGE

A leap in connectivity, but challenges remain

As Bengaluru's metro network completes 12 years of operation, **Darshan Devaiah B.P.** takes an overview of the project's journey, highlighting the successes and issues faced by BMRCL

The inaugural run of Namma Metro train from M.G. Road to Baiyappanahalli in October 2011. (Right) The crowd of commuters at the Kempegowda metro station last month. BHAGYA PRAKASH K. AND SUDHAKARA JAIN

Tunnel boring machine Urja completed work on a 850-metre stretch to emerge at what will become Shivajinagar metro station. (Right) The Whitefield (Kadugodi) metro station. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT & SUDHAKARA JAIN



GRAPHIC: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

Average daily footfall: Top 10 stations

(October 9 to November 2, 2023)		
1	Kempegowda	40,591
2	M.G. Road	22,235
3	Indiranagar	21,565
4	Baiyappanahalli	19,084
5	Sampige Road	18,391
6	Nagasandra	18,218
7	Banashankari	17,124
8	Chickpet	16,766
9	Cubbon Park	15,514
10	Jayanagar	15,261

Ridership

Year	Number of operational days	Average number of passengers a day
FY 2011-12	164	25,401
FY 2012-13	365	18,182
FY 2013-14	365	19,879
FY 2014-15	365	31,490
FY 2015-16	366	45,930
FY 2016-17	365	1,48,369
FY 2017-18	365	3,53,221
FY 2018-19	365	4,51,899
FY 2019-20	356	4,89,380
FY 2020-21	206	95,841
FY 2021-22	305	2,25,445
FY 2022-23	203	4,77,644
FY 2023 (end of Oct.)	214	6,01,432

Namratha Upadhya started her career as a business analyst at a private IT firm near Trinity Circle in 2011. Presently, she is Assistant Vice President-Risk and Compliance with the same company. Throughout her 12-year career, she has consistently travelled from Baiyappanahalli to Trinity Circle office on the Namma Metro. Her career milestone, she says, coincides with the 12th anniversary of the metro's launch in the city, and she has an emotional connection with the rail network.

"I have been using it for the past 12 years. It is a lifeline for thousands of commuters like me. Seeing the entire Purple Line open is fulfilling. Though there have been multiple delays, seamless east-west connectivity is a significant achievement for the metro authority and Bengalureans," she said.

Increase in ridership

The average daily passenger ridership of the Yellow Line when it started in 2011 was 25,401. It's now 6,01,432. The opening of the entire stretch has resulted in not only an increased number of passengers but also a reduction in traffic volume along the metro stretches, especially by 12% to 14% on Old Madras Road.

Metro rail work under way in Bengaluru.

The Namma Metro project envisioned almost two decades before its launch, marked a significant leap in Bengaluru's transport infrastructure. It was on October 20, 2011, that the first stretch (Reach 1 between Baiyappanahalli and M.G. Road) was opened.

On the 12th anniversary of Namma Metro last month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the entire 43.49 km stretch of the Purple Line from Challaghatta in the west to Whitefield in the east. Today, it's India's second-longest operational network, covering 73.81 km, after the Delhi Metro. It's also South India's first underground metro network.

A BMRCL official told *The Hindu*, "When the metro work began, many people protested against tree cutting. However, they are now among the metro commuters. As the city expands, we require vital infrastructure like the metro for seamless connectivity, benefiting all commuters."

Completed and ongoing projects

Phase 1 of the project is complete, spanning over 42.3 km with 40 stations. It has two corridors: East-West (Purple Line) of 18.1 km and 17 stations, and North-South (Green Line) of 24.2 km with 24 stations. Both intersect at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda station (Majestic), an underground interchange station. Phase 1 was commissioned in stages from 2011, and the entire project was dedicated to the nation in June 2017.

> When the metro work began, many people protested against tree cutting. However, they are now among the metro commuters. As the city expands, we require vital infrastructure like the metro for seamless connectivity, benefiting all commuters.
>
> **BMRCL OFFICIAL**

The inaugural train running on the K.R. Pura - Whitefield stretch after it was opened on March 25. K. MURALI KUMAR

In Phase 2, an eastern extension of 15.81 km with 13 stations, a western extension of 9.58 km with seven stations, and a southern extension of 6.12 km with five stations have been opened to the public. With this, the total operational length is 74 km.

Ongoing metro projects – the northern extension of 3.14 km with three stations and the new Reach 5 line (R.V. Road - Bommanahalli - Yellow Line), with a length of 19.15 km and 15 stations – are slated to be commissioned by April 2024. Also, the new line Reach 6 (Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara - Pink Line), covering 21.26 km with 17 stations, is scheduled for commissioning by March 2025, according to B.L. Yashavanth Chavan, Chief Public Relations Officer of BMRCL.

"The complete Phase 2 spans 75.06 km with 61 stations (49 elevated and 12 underground). With the completion of Phase 2 by 2025, the cumulative operational network will reach 117 km," he added.

Phase 2A and 2B, the Outer Ring Road (ORR) - Airport Metro corridor, will cover 58.19 km with 30 stations. It is expected to be completed by June 2026, expanding the city's operational metro network to 176 km.

Delays and missed deadlines

However, there have been numerous delays and unmet deadlines, which have inconvenienced the public for several years. Srinivas Alavilli, a public transport advocate in Bengaluru, said Namma Metro had misplaced its priorities. Constructing flyovers in places like Electronics City or the airport road before the metro rail raises questions, he said. According to him, metro construction should have been prioritised in these areas.

BMRCL officials attributed the delays to challenges in getting land from private individuals, the Forest Department, etc. An official told *The Hindu*, "PIL petitions filed against the BMRCL regarding felling of trees have also slowed our work."

Expansion plans of metro

The Karnataka government has approved the construction of 317 km of metro lines under the Comprehensive Mobility Plan by 2031. A Detailed Project Report for Phase 3, covering 45 km at an estimated cost of ₹15,611 crore, has been submitted to the Government of India for approval. "A DPR for Phase 3A, from Sarjapura to Hebbal, spanning 37 km, is also under preparation. Feasibility studies will be undertaken for the remaining 60 km in due course," Mr. Chavan said.

Phase 3 comprises two elevated corridors – one from J.P. Nagar 4th Phase to Kempapura along the Outer Ring Road (covering 12.5 km) and another from Hosahalli to Kadabgere along Magadi Road (spanning 32.15 km). This will include 31 stations, and the deadline is 2028.

Cost incurred

According to BMRCL, Phase 1 was constructed at a cost of ₹14,133.17 crore. With contributions of the Union and the State governments as equity and subordinate debts, nearly 45% of the amount is through senior debts from the Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA), French agency Agence Francaise De Development (AFD) as pass-through assistance and also from Housing and Urban Development Corporation, Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation, and bonds.

"Phase 2 of the project is estimated to cost ₹30,695 crore, with a nearly similar pattern of government funding, and the remaining funding through senior debts from AFD, EIB (the European Investment Bank), AIIB (Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank), and JICA, as pass-through assistance. Phase 2A and 2B, the ORR-Airport Metro corridor, is estimated to cost ₹14,788. The funding pattern is nearly similar. A part from the governments, and the remaining from senior debts from JICA and ADB as pass-through assistance," Mr. Chavan explained.

Last-mile connectivity issues

While the metro has now become the first choice of commute for lakhs of people, the first and last-mile connectivity remains a major issue. Experts say it's important to resolve this to realise the full potential of the metro network.

In collaboration with the World Resources Institute, the Bangalore Political Action Committee initiated the #Personal2Public campaign to discourage people from taking their personal vehicles. As part of this, the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation introduced feeder bus services to connect prominent tech corridors, such as the one on Outer Ring Road, with metro stations. Supplementing the services of apps like Uber, Ola, Rapido, and Namma Yatri is the Metro Mitra app, a collaborative initiative between the BMRCL and the Autorickshaw Drivers Union to address the last-mile connectivity problem.

Overcrowding of metro coaches

With the metro network expanding, another problem is the overcrowding of the six-coach trains. During peak hours, long queues at metro stations and commuters unable to board the crowded coaches have become a common sight. This is despite trains running at three-minute intervals during peak hours.

Metro train service frequency on the Whitefield (Kadugodi) - Pattandur Agrahara section is 10 minutes, and on the Pattandur Agrahara - Mysuru Road section is five minutes. During morning peak hours, the frequency on the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Station - Majestic - M.G. Road section is three minutes, and between Mysuru Road and Challaghatta is 10 minutes. Commuters want the frequency to be increased.

BMRCL officials said the frequency can be increased only after they get new coaches. Currently, BMRCL operates a total of 57 trains, with 33 serving the Purple Line and 24 allocated to the Green Line. A BMRCL official said, "The frequency of trains will be increased according to demand, and efficient crowd management strategies will be implemented at the stations. The primary solution to reduce overcrowding is to add more train coaches."

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Breaking boundaries: shifting perspectives in Hindi cinema

The transformation of female sexuality representation raises concerns about oversimplification and the potential for a regression in the portrayal while using humour as a means of addressing taboo subjects

Neha Mehrotra

In the lead up to the release of Siddharth Anand's *Pathaan* this year, there was a lot of talk, not of the film per se, but a small 20-second clip that seemed to have sparked anger among some of the political rank and file. It's hard to believe that after years of a slow but steady accretion of progressive films and portrayals, of women helming films about their own lives and desires, we have moved backward to a point where Deepika Padukone's saffron bikini in the song '*Besharam Rang*' caused people to take offence. Why? Because she is seemingly disrespecting, and sexualising a political colour. One female MP actually threatened to kick Deepika in the stomach, never watch any of her films and destroy her business. Feminism 101.

Evolution of portrayal

Over the years, the portrayal of female sexuality on screen has witnessed a constant evolution, from Deepa Mehta's *Fire* (1996) to *Dirty Picture* (2011) to *Lipstick Under My Burkha* (2016) to this year's *Thank You For Coming*. Several of these films spotlight sensuous women, who are actively indulging their desires, whether for sex, money or fame. How, then, does one understand films like these in relation to the whole '*Besharam Rang*' saga? There is a cognitive dissonance here: while one aspect of the Hindi film and television industry has gotten steadily more permissive and progressive, another part has tightened the shackles of societal mores, policing any and every transgression. This lays bare one of the most basic problems with breaking the glass ceiling - that a few female-driven films don't mean we have evolved into an equal society. In fact, these transgressions are often punished with a doubling down on female sexuality in more mainstream films. In light of this, let's take a look at the evolution of female sexuality on screen over the years.

Released in Indian theatres in 1998, *Fire* is loosely based on Urdu writer Ismat Chughtai's short story '*Lihaaf*', and is a seminal film when it comes to depictions of female sexuality on screen.

The film revolves around Radha and Sita, two women unhappily married into the same house. While Radha (played by Shabana Azmi) is a "barren woman" whose inability to have children has accorded her second-class status, Sita (Nandita Das) is plagued by her husband's affair with another woman. In the absence of marital love, Radha and Sita start spending time together, and eventually, develop a relationship. Radha, at one point, tells Sita, "This isn't familiar to me, this awareness of needs and desires" - spotlighting how female sexuality is often extinguished in Indian families.

To top it off, their names – Radha and Sita – draw parallels to the goddess Laxmi in Hindu mythology, alluding to divine sanction for their relationship. The film was revolutionary in its emphasis on two women desiring each other, an act that acknowledges female sexuality can exist outside of marriage and reproduction. This is a sexuality purely predicated on pleasure.

Though there was a general backlash to '*Fire*' (a 1998 *India Today* article on the subject begins with 'It started like a bush fire...') with the film being recalled by the Censor Board over objectionable content, it was eventually screened across the country - and moved the dial of female-centric cinema forward.

A still from *English Vinglish*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

As we sailed into the 2000s, there came a slew of films like *Dirty Picture* (2011), *Aiyya* (2012) and *English Vinglish* (2012) that had strong women in the lead, talking, desiring, taking control, with the men relegated to an almost negligible background. For instance, *Dirty Picture* tells the story of Silk Smitha, an 80s dancer and actress known for her erotic performances, and widely hailed as a sex symbol. Starring Vidya Balan, the film depicts Silk unapologetically using her sexuality to make it in a man's world, and features Ms. Balan opposite three male leads over the course of the film - Naseeruddin Shah, Tusshar Kapoor and Emraan Hashmi, all of whom she has a love affair with.

There's a poignant moment when Silk, while accepting an award on stage, calls out the hypocrisy of those who dub her 'dirty': *"Apni film ko take off karne ke liye mujhe boarding pass ki tarah use kiya, phir bhi vulgar main hoon. Dance karvaya aapne, par vulgar main hoon. Family ke saath meri films dekh nahi sakte, par chup chup ke dekh kar dhadaake se sex karte jaa rahe hai. Par tab bhi vulgar main hoon."*

That a film like this found mainstream success—it grossed over ₹117 crores at the box office and won Balan the National Film Award for Best Actress—is a testament to changing times and portrayals. It subverted Freud's famous Madonna-Whore complex that boxes women into one of two categories: Madonna, a woman who is admired and respected, or Whore, a sexy woman who is consequently disrespected. Balan on screen was both, signalling a living, breathing multiplicity.

Post 2015, there started emerging a perceptible shift in the way female sexuality was treated on screen. This began with *Lipstick Under My Burkha* in 2016, but was carried forward in films like *Bareilly Ki Barfi* (2017), *Lust Stories* (2018) and *Badhai Do* (2022).

The most significant change in all of them was the use of comedy to deal with sex and sexuality, particularly that of women. Until this point, most films depicted female sexuality as a serious affair, to be treated with the gravitas they believed the topic deserved. But then came *Lipstick Under My Burkha*, which spotlighted the secret lives and desires of four women in the small town of Bhopal. The film's voiceover has 55-year-old widow *Buaaji* (Ratna Pathak Shah) reading from an erotic novel featuring a woman called Rosy and her *tadakte phadakte sapne*. This, in itself, is a source of subtle comedy as the narration has Rosy doing things like spying on her neighbour as he bathes, an act of sexual agency mirrored by Buaaji, who starts taking swimming lessons and seducing her instructor.

Successive films played up this comic element, and soon, a number of films featuring female sexuality were made as comedies. Whether it is Bareilly's *barfi* Bitti Sharma who, as the film indicates, is just like a boy - smokes cigarettes, stays out late, break dances and takes full control of her love life; or the librarian Rekha (Neha Dhupia) in *Lust Stories*, who wears low-cut blouses and masturbates in the library, women's sexuality was handled with a lighter touch, that emphasised a sexy frivolity that didn't take itself too seriously. Sometimes, comedy spilled over into horror, giving you a film like *Stree* (2018), which was dubbed a comedy-horror. In this, a *chudail* named Stree plagues the town of Chanderi, her MO being *"woh purusho ko uthaati hai, aur sirf vastra chhodti hai."* In a comic role reversal, it's the woman who is depicted as a predator on the loose, and the men who, to protect themselves, are instructed not to stay out too late. Though ironically astute, the premise betrays an underlying confusion about what exactly the *Stree* wants: sex or respect.

Comedy, horror

Both comedy and horror have their advantages: comedy often serves to lighten heavy topics and make them palatable to a wider audience, while horror can heighten the senses, punctuating the point of the film with greater efficacy. But there is a flipside - the problem with relegating female sexuality to the comedy or horror genres is that it can end up flattening a rather complex subject, in the process stripping it of nuance; which is what, to a certain extent, happened in *Stree*. And which is what also happened in the 2023 sex comedy *Thank You For Coming*. Directed by Karan Boolani, the film has all the tick marks of a progressive film centering on woman: it features a strong female cast of Bhumi Pednekar in the forefront, flanked by the coterie of Shehnaaz Gill, Kusha Kapila, Dolly Singh and Shibani Bedi. It also emphasises female pleasure, particularly orgasms, with the film serving as one long search for who gave Pednekar her first and only orgasm. But underneath the progressive paraphernalia lies a post 30s woman terrified of turning old, and in perpetual search of a Prince Charming. A lot of the film's main themes—sexual pleasure, relationships, harassment—are bludgeoned in the name of comedy, which, ultimately, is not even very funny.

In today's saffron bikini-ridden times, laughing seems a welcome respite, and perhaps a good coping mechanism to counteract the harshness around us. It's also a great way to surpass censorship of what are considered taboo subjects. But amid the laughter, we should be careful not to undo the progress made over the years, and end up triggering a devolution of female sexuality on screen.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Sir - Mr. B. V. Prasad, Lalithanagar, Visakhapatnam, wants to know the difference between 'clean' and 'cleanse'."

"Both mean 'to remove foreign matter'. 'Clean' is the word that is commonly used. Clean the room. It is so dirty. 'Cleanse' is used when you want to convey that what is to be removed is foul or polluting. 'Cleanse' means 'to make morally or spiritually clean, to purify or free from guilt or sin'. When you clean something, you try to remove foreign matter and restore the thing to its original order. When you cleanse something, you try to remove what is foul or obnoxious. We must cleanse public life in our country. You clean your teeth. He said we could cleanse ourselves of our sins through prayer. 'Clean' rhymes with 'spleen'. 'Cleanse' rhymes with 'tens'. The 's' is pronounced 'z'."

"Sir, Ms. Prithvi Krishna, Avadi Road, Madras, wants to know the meaning of 'Before you can say Jack Robinson'."

" 'Before you can say Jack Robinson' means 'immediately, instantly'. It would seem that there was a Jack Robinson who used to visit his neighbours suddenly and would leave immediately on arrival. He was in the habit of saying 'hello' and 'goodbye' in quick succession. Ram gave the answer before you could say Jack Robinson."

"Sir, Mr. Y. V. S. Subrahmanyam, Butchemma Agraharam, Amalapuram, wants to know the difference between 'walk out' and 'boycott'."

" 'To walk out' is 'to leave suddenly and angrily, especially as protest or strike'. When the Speaker refused to accept the suggestion of the Leader of the Opposition, the Opposition walked out of the House. He walked out of the meeting in protest. 'To boycott' is to 'refuse to do business with, attend or take part in, as a way of showing disapproval and opposition'. During the Freedom Movement, a lot of Indians boycotted British goods. Many nations are boycotting South African goods. You walk out when you are dissatisfied. You boycott on principle. The duration of a boycott can be short or long. The word is from Captain Boycott (1832-1897), an Irishman, who was isolated from others for his taking over a farm from an evicted tenant. The Irish League had declared in 1880 that no such land should be bought by another and if anyone did, he should be avoided like the plague. Everyone refused to work for Boycott and persecuted him in several ways. So 'boycott' now means 'organised refusal to trade or to associate with a country, business concern, or individual'."

"Sir, Mr. K. Pradeep, Indira Nagar, Madras wants to know the difference between 'pin code' and 'zip code'."

"They mean the same thing. They refer to a number that is used in the postal address of a place to help sorting of mail. A five-digit number is used in America and a six-digit number is used in India. The word ZIP is used in America. It means 'Zone Improvement Plan'. PIN is used in India, it means 'Postal Index Number' Code. 'Post Code' is used in Britain. 'Post Code' in Britain is a combination of letters and numbers."

Published in The Hindu on December 19, 1989

THE DAILY QUIZ

Writer Neil Gaiman was born on this day in 1960. Here is a quiz on the works of one of the most well-known postmodern writers

K. Abhinaya

QUESTION 1

This character in a Neil Gaiman book inspired the creation of a character in '*The Matrix*' movie. In the movie, the character is played by Laurence Fishburne. Identify the character and the book.

QUESTION 2

Which of Gaiman's novels was adapted into a feature-length film using stop-motion animation in 2009?

QUESTION 3

An iconic episode of '*Doctor Who*' was written by Gaiman. It explores the doctor's relationship with the police box after the soul of TARDIS is transported into a human vessel. Identify the episode and the actor who played the legendary doctor.

QUESTION 4

What is the name of the magical, otherworldly market in Neil Gaiman's novel '*Neverwhere*'?

QUESTION 5

In '*The Graveyard Book*', the protagonist who is raised by ghosts in a cemetery after his family is murdered is called Somebody Owens. Is the statement true or false?

Visual Question: The image is from a series adapted from a book written by Gaiman. Who is the co-writer of the book?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Name the Asian country that got its Independence from France on this date. **Ans: Cambodia**
2. Name the author familiar to Indians as the writer of 'Sare Jahan se Accha'. **Ans: Muhammad Iqbal**
3. The chemical element with the Atomic Number 110 takes its name from the city where the institute is located. Name the element and city. **Ans: Darmstadt and Darmstadtium**
4. Who did Garry Kasparov beat to become the youngest World Chess Champion? **Ans: Anatoly Karpov**
5. Name the German vessel. **Ans: SMS Emden**
6. This free and open-source web browser had its initial release on November 9, 18 years ago. **Ans: Firefox**
7. Name the French President who passed away on November 9, 1970. **Ans: Charles De Gaulle**
Visual: This is the seal of which Indian State. **Ans: Uttarakhand**
Early Birds: Anurag Gangwar | K.N. Viswanathan | Ravi Shankar | Suresh Kumar | Varghese Joseph

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Word of the day

Candour:
ability to make judgments free from discrimination or dishonesty

Synonyms: openness, fairness, sincerity

Usage: *She has earned a reputation for candour.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/candourpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /kændə/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

BWSSB to prepare DPR on using additional Cauvery water

Govt. issues order to utilise 24 tmcft of water as against 18 tmcft, which was being used earlier; DKS may soon direct BWSSB to call tender to rope in a consultant to prepare project report

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

According to BWSSB, many villages located adjacent to Bengaluru have been demanding Cauvery water and now with increased allocation, it may be possible to cater to their needs. FILE PHOTO

The Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) will soon be preparing a Detailed Project Report (DPR) on utilisation of the additional 6 tmcft of Cauvery water allocated for the drinking water needs of Bengaluru.

The Karnataka government has issued an order to utilise 24 tmcft of water as against 18 tmcft, which was being used earlier. The order was passed to implement the 2018 Supreme Court (SC) order that modified the Cauvery tribunal award of 2012, allowing Bengaluru to use 24 tmcft of Cauvery river water.

BWSSB Chairman N. Jayaram told *The Hindu* that the present infrastructure including the Cauvery Water Supply Stage V is only sufficient for the utilisation of 18 tmcft. After Stage V is completed, 110 villages and core areas of Bengaluru will use 18 tmcft but to avail the fresh allocation, new project should be planned.

Mr. Jayaram further said many villages located adjacent to Bengaluru have been demanding Cauvery water and now with increased allocation, it may be possible to cater to their needs. On the other hand, the drinking water demand of the city will go up in the next 10 years. The fresh allocation has come as a boon to the fast growing Bengaluru which is also seeing increase in population.

Mr. Jayaram said the BWSSB keeping in mind various factors like surge in demand in future and present need of adjacent villages will draft a DPR. A source in the BWSSB said Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar may soon direct the BWSSB to call tender to rope in a consultant to prepare the DPR.

The DPR will be prepared after carrying out ground assessment, calculating the quantum of increase in demand in existing BWSSB supply areas and how many adjacent villages can be included for the new project.

Rowdy hacked to death in Puttenahalli

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 32-year-old rowdy was hacked to death by an armed gang of four on Chunchanaghatta Main Road on Wednesday night.

The deceased Sahadev, involved in a murder case in 2016, was having tea at a bakery when the gang attacked him and sped away. Sahadev sustained multiple injuries and was killed on the spot. The Puttenahalli police swung into action and tracked down some assailants within a few hours while efforts are on to track down the others.

BBP to remain open on November 14

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP), which is generally closed every Tuesday, will remain open on November 14, in view of Deepavali holiday, according to a release.

All the units of BBP such as zoo, safari, and butterfly park will remain open for the public.

Closed on Nov. 15

However, the BBP will remain closed on November 15 and all the units of BBP will not be functioning on Wednesday, the release stated.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

DEEPAVALI & CHHATH PUJA SPECIAL TRAIN SERVICES

Indian Railways has notified to run following special express trains to clear the extra rush of passengers in view of the Deepavali and Chhath festivals. For more information, passengers are advised to visit the official website of https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in or dial 139.

Sl. No.	Train Nos.	From - To	Days of Service	Date of Journeys
1.	07335	Belagavi - Kazipet	Daily	01.11.2023 to 30.11.2023
2.	07336	Kazipet - Belagavi	Daily	02.11.2023 to 01.12.2023
3.	07339	SSS Hubballi - KSR Bengaluru	Daily	01.11.2023 to 31.12.2023
4.	07340	KSR Bengaluru - SSS Hubballi	Daily	02.11.2023 to 01.01.2024
5.	06287	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Bhubaneswar New	Fri	10.11.2023
6.	06288	Bhubaneswar New - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Sat	11.11.2023
7.	06231	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Vijayapura	Fri	10.11.2023
8.	06232	Vijayapura - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Tue	14.11.2023
9.	06585	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Belagavi	Fri	10.11.2023
10.	06586	Belagavi - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Tue	14.11.2023
11.	06217	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Bhagat Ki Kothi	Thu	09.11.2023, 16.11.2023 & 23.11.2023
12.	06218	Bhagat Ki Kothi - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Sun	12.11.2023, 19.11.2023 & 26.11.2023
13.	06219	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Bhagat Ki Kothi	Sat	11.11.2023, 18.11.2023 & 25.11.2023
14.	06220	Bhagat Ki Kothi - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Tue	14.11.2023, 21.11.2023 & 28.11.2023
15.	07303	Mysuru - Mangaluru Jn.	Fri	10.11.2023
16.	07304	Mangaluru Jn.- Mysuru	Tue	14.11.2023
17.	06505	SSS Hubballi - Bidar	Fri	10.11.2023
18.	06506	Bidar - Yesvantpur	Tue	14.11.2023
19.	07353	KSR Bengaluru - SSS Hubballi	Sat & Wed	11.11.2023 & 15.11.2023
20.	07354	SSS Hubballi - KSR Bengaluru	Sat & Wed	11.11.2023 & 15.11.2023
21.	05215	Barauni - Yesvantpur	Sat	07.11.2023 to 09.12.2023
22.	05216	Yesvantpur - Barauni	Tue	10.11.2023 to 12.12.2023
23.	08543	Visakhapatnam - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Sun	05.11.2023 to 26.11.2023
24.	08544	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Visakhapatnam	Mon	06.11.2023 to 27.11.2023
25.	05271	Muzaffarpur - Yesvantpur	Fri	06.11.2023 to 08.12.2023
26.	05272	Yesvantpur - Muzaffarpur	Mon	09.11.2023 to 11.12.2023
27.	06083	Nagercoil - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Tue	07.11.2023 to 21.11.2023
28.	06084	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Nagercoil	Wed	08.11.2023 to 22.11.2023
29.	04813	Bhagat Ki Kothi - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Sat & Mon	11.11.2023 to 04.12.2023
30.	04814	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Bhagat Ki Kothi	Mon & Wed	13.11.2023 to 06.12.2023
31.	03245	Danapur - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Wed	08.11.2023 to 06.12.2023
32.	03246	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Danapur	Fri	10.11.2023 to 08.12.2023
33.	03251	Danapur - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Sun & Mon	07.11.2023 to 10.12.2023
34.	03252	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Danapur	Tue & Wed	07.11.2023 to 12.12.2023
35.	03259	Danapur - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Tue	07.11.2023 to 05.12.2023
36.	03260	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Danapur	Thu	09.11.2023 to 07.12.2023
37.	03247	Danapur - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Thu	09.11.2023 to 07.12.2023
38.	03248	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Danapur	Sat	11.11.2023 to 09.12.2023
39.	03241	Danapur - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Fri	10.11.2023 to 08.12.2023
40.	03242	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Danapur	Sun	05.11.2023 to 10.12.2023
41.	07265	Narasapur - Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru	Tue	07.11.2023 to 24.11.2023
42.	07266	Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal Bengaluru - Narasapur	Thu	09.11.2023 to 25.11.2023

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M BG-BGE

Despite rainfall in city, lamp sales soar ahead of Deepavali

This year, mould lamps have a huge demand and that is what is being bought in large quantities by vendors

An artist paints a clay lamp for the upcoming Deepavali at Pottery Town in Bengaluru, and (right) hand-made lamps getting ready for sale. K. MURALI KUMAR

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

Bengaluru is brimming with the festive spirit as Deepavali approaches, despite cloudy weather. All markets are stocked with a wide array of lamps, lanterns, candles, and various decorative items. Lamp sellers in the city say that the sales have been brisk.

Hope for weekend

Bhagyamma, a resident of Nandini Layout who has been setting up stalls during the festive seasons in front of the Ragigudda Temple in J.P. Nagar every year, says that this year has been good.

"Starting from Ganesha Chauthurthi, I put up a stall here and live here for a couple of months. I have been doing this for 35 years. From Ganesha idols to Dasara dolls, and now the lamps, sales have been good. We sell pairs of Deepas starting from ₹10 to ₹300, and despite the rains, the sales have been good. By Friday, sales will get better."

Gowramma, another seller who has been selling

pooja items at the Banashankari bus stop for more than three decades, said sales will get better towards the weekend, "We sell pooja items including lamps throughout the year. But the festive season is when we have good income from an array of lamps. The past two days sales have been average due to the rains. But a day before the festivities begin, we will definitely have good sales," she said.

Hemanth Kumar, a traditional potter from Pottery Town, said demand for mould lamps is higher for wholesale sellers. "Our lamps start from ₹10 a pair to ₹500 and more, depending on designs and colours. Over the last few years, we do not have demand for handmade lamps as they are simple and do not have designs. It is the same this year too. However, mould lamps have a huge demand, and that is what is being bought in huge quantities by vendors from us."

Ramya Shekar, another traditional potter, said, "Due to rains, there has been a slight fall in customers who walk in to our stalls. However, our business is doing well online and through tele-booking. Our basic lamps are sold at ₹2, and the grand step lamps at ₹5,000 and more, depending on design. We have our own designs for terracotta lamps, and we have our own set of niche customers who always demand handmade work."

Ticket fares of private buses skyrocket ahead of festival

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Despite conducting special drives to curb private bus operators charging excess fares during festive season, the Transport Department has failed to provide any relief to the public. FILE PHOTO

Like every festival season when people travel to their hometown and on holidays, private bus operators seem to be charging a bomb this Deepavali too. The prices of most tickets have been hiked anywhere in the range of 50% to 100%, industry insiders said.

Despite conducting special drives to curb private bus operators charging excess fares during festive season, the Transport Department has failed to provide any relief to the public.

During the ongoing Deepavali season, long-distance bus fares remain unreasonably high, with online booking sites displaying fares exceeding ₹2,000 for Bengaluru-Mangaluru trip and over ₹3,500 for Bengaluru to Hyderabad journeys.

Passengers travelling from Bengaluru to Belagavi are being charged up to ₹3,500 per seat, and the fare for the Bengaluru to Mumbai route is around ₹4,000. On various other long-distance routes, fares are twice the usual rates.

Cases filed

However, the Transport Department officials assert that they have been vigilant in monitoring bus operators who overcharge passengers, taking legal action against them.

"During our operations, we have filed cases against operators who exploit passengers by charging exorbitant fares. We have consistently instructed them to maintain regular fare rates instead of exploiting the situation. The enforcement team has also penalised operators for violating permit regulations and other offenses," said an official from the department.

Passengers unhappy

Meanwhile, passengers have expressed their discontent regarding exorbitant ticket prices. Kiran Rao, an employee of a private company, said, "Last week, when I attempted to book a ticket to Gokarna, which is my native, the booking portal showed a fare of ₹2,400 for a specific bus operator, excluding tax. Charging exorbitant fares seems to have become a regular occurrence during festive seasons. Despite officials claiming to take action, it appears to be a pointless effort."

Ramprasad Kumar, another passenger, said, "I used to pay around ₹1,800 for a sleeper coach journey from Bengaluru to Hyderabad. Now, the fares have more than doubled. Authorities should set a limit on fare increases during the festive season instead of letting operators exploit passengers."

Postal department official finds joy in raising butterflies

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

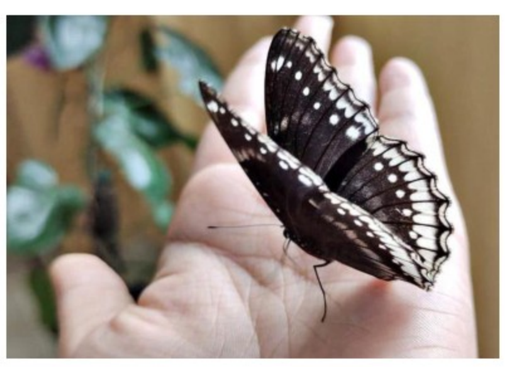
Kaiya Arora has taken care of around 60 butterflies since she began developing an interest in the beautiful creatures. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

For residents of cities, pets usually mean dogs, cats, or, in some cases, birds. However, an officer from the postal department in Bengaluru rears butterflies. Kaiya Arora, 40, works as Director, Head Office, Postal services. She has taken care of around 60 butterflies.

During her posting in Mumbai, Ms Arora, an enthusiastic gardener, noticed a pupa inside a plant she was growing. That began her journey of rearing butterflies, as she researched more on the topic. She continued her hobby even after she moved to Bengaluru a couple of years ago.

"Butterflies need two types of plants for their survival - host plants and nectar plants. While nectar plants are common for all butterflies, which are usually tubular plants, every butterfly needs a different host plant depending on its species," she explained. "Citrus plants and curry leaf plants are usually used as host plants by some butterflies," she added.

The first step in the process of rearing is to identify the butterfly eggs. "Once you identify the eggs, you have to bring the plant inside. After that, you have to forget about the plant," she said in a humorous tone. After an egg hatches and the caterpillar comes out, they eat the plant almost entirely and become pupae (transitional stage).



Eventually, when an adult butterfly comes out, it is important to protect it until its wings are completely dry.

"Another important aspect about raising butterflies is to protect them – from the time you find the eggs until they can fly – from predators like lizards, sparrows and other birds," she said.

She is now familiar with Papillion butterflies like Swallow Tales, Common Mormon, Common Roses; Pieridae butterflies; and Lycaeninae butterflies, which are Blue Coppers.

When asked if she noticed any difference while raising butterflies in two different cities, Ms Arora said, "Bengaluru is more conducive for butterflies, as they need bright sunlight whereas Mumbai is a concrete jungle. Here you can find species like Jamaican Spike and Lantana in greater numbers."

Ms Arora, an engineering graduate, had always been interested in nature, which led her to this unique hobby. "It is about the joy of being a part of the entire process and the ecosystem. I had once released 30 butterflies together," she says with pride.

Researchers develop radiative cooling paint for buildings

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Researchers from Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) have developed a radiative cooling paint, which is specifically engineered to cool structures like buildings, pavers, and tiles in hot weather conditions. The eco-friendly paint not only provides relief during sweltering summer days, but also reduces electricity consumption.

Cooling technologies are an integral part of human life due to the increased global warming and urban heat island effects. However, active cooling devices such as air-conditioners (AC), electric fans, and refrigerators consume enormous electrical energy. Along with this vast energy demand, active cooling devices also emit a large proportion of greenhouse gases, leading to an increase in the earth's surface temperature.

"To circumvent these challenges, radiative cooling technology has been developed that provides cool surfaces by emitting thermal radiation directly to the cold universe (around 3K) through the atmospheric transmission window without electricity consumption. As a result, passive daytime radiative cooling (PDRC) has drawn much interest recently for many applications such as pavers, tiles, building and automobile cooling, solar cell, and personal thermal management," said the Department of Science and Technology.

JNCASR researchers, led by Professor Bivas Saha in collaboration with Prasanna Das, Sourav Rudra, Krishna Chand Maurya, have developed the radiative cooling paint.

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/s. Primeco Realty Pvt. Ltd., The Hub, # 8/2 & 9, Ambalipura-Bellandur, Sarjapura Main Road, Bangalore – 560103.

State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority – Karnataka has been accorded the Environmental Clearance for Construction of Commercial Building Project at BBMP Khatha No. 871/902/954/11, Survey No. 11(P) of Ambalipura Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District.

EC Identification No: No. SEIAA 30 CON 2023 Dated: 28th April, 2023

The copies of Environmental Clearance letters are available with the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and may also be seen on the website of the SEIAA, Karnataka at https://parivesh.nic.in/ or https://environmentclearance.nic.in/

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing to develop the schedule Property by entering into a joint development agreement with **Sri. B.V. VENKATESH,** S/o. Late. B. Venkata Rao, **Smt. A.C. GAYATHRI.** W/o. Sri.B.V. Venkatesh, **Sri. B.V. RAGHU.** S/o. Sri. B.V. Venkatesh, **Sri. B.V. BHARATH.** S/o. Sri. B.V. Venkatesh, All are residing at No. 25, 5th Cross, 5th Main, Chikkakallasandra, Bengaluru - 560061. Anybody has got any sort of right, claim, interest over the schedule property or having any sort of objection for the said transaction shall approach the under mentioned within **7 days** from this day with documentary evidence, failing which my client shall proceed further in accordance with the terms of the agreement to sell considering there is no objection to the said development agreement.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the undeveloped land bearing converted **Sy. No.61/1A7,** measuring **00-21 guntas or 22869 Sq. Ft.,** converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential use as per conversion order bearing No. B.Dis/ALN(S)/SR(KT)60/2005-06, dt: 17/11/2005, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru District, Bengaluru, situated at **Kengeri Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru,** presently within the administrative jurisdiction of BBMP having khata No. 4985/61/1A7 And bounded as: **East by : Road and property bearing Sy. No. 63/3 belonging to owners, West by : Portion of land bearing Sy. No. 61/1A7 belonging to Sri. G. Chandrashekara Reddy now converted as layout and 30 feet access road, North by : Private Property, South by : Property belonging to Smt. Jayamma now converted as layout.**

N.S. SHIVASHANKAR, Advocate
48/1, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, Opp: Canara Bank, Vallabha Nagar, Uttarahalli Main Road, Uttarahalli, Bangalore-61. Ph No. 9343094442, 080-41628629

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform all General public that my Clients **MR. NOOKALA UDAY SAI KUMAR** and **MR. NOOKALA BADRINATH,** resident of Nandyal, Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh is in the process of buying SCHEDULE PROPERTY mentioned hereunder from the Owner **SRI. P S PANDIAN** residing at: No.6, Peekayam Layout, Hosapalya Main Road, Hosapalya, Bengaluru-560068.

If anybody or bank is having objections may give in writing to the following address within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice in the newspaper.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Eastern portion land comprised in Converted Sy.No.16/9A, situated at Yellukunte Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring East to West : 48 Feet and North to South: 112 Feet, in all measuring 5,376 Sq.Ft or equivalent to 4.93 Guntas and Bounded on the :-

East By: The Remaining portion of the land as Item No.4 of the Property, **West by:** Eastern portion of the same Property, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Private Property.

My Address:
Dr. M. Venkataswamy, Advocate
M V Legal Services, Terrace Floor, Shiv Kailash Apartment, C M Layout, Adj. ITI Layout, Yellukunte, HSR Layout Extension, Bangalore-560068.
Ph : 9901026725

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, Sri Puneeth S, son of Late Shivanna P intends to state that he is the co-owner of the residential property mentioned in the Schedule hereunder. My client represents and warrants that he along with his mother, are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property and that they have not conveyed nor entered into any memorandum of understanding, agreement of sale, development agreement or have entered into any sort of arrangement with any person or persons for the transfer of the Schedule Property. The Schedule Property is not encumbered, mortgaged, or created any charge thereon in any manner and apart from him or his mother, no other person, firm, or company has any sort of right, title, or claim over the Schedule Property. Any person or persons having objections or claims shall, with documentary evidence lodge their objections or claims within ten (10) days from the publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the residential Property bearing No. 45/A, BBMP PID No. 35-36-45/A, comprising a residential house thereon, situated at 2nd cross Subbanna Garden, Marenahalli in BBMP Ward No. 35, Bengaluru, on the site ad-measuring 1260 Square Feet and is bounded on the:

East : Road
West : Aiyappa Swamy Temple Convention Hall
North : Property bearing No.44
South : Private Property

Sd/-
LIKITHA.V, Advocate
Bengaluru

LIKITHA.V, Advocate
No.103, Gururaja Layout, Vibhutipura Extension, Marathahalli, Bengaluru.
Ph: 9739560515
Place: Bengaluru
Date: 10/11/2023

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AGRAM - POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677
Website: www.apsasc.edu.in

Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are invited for purchase and installation of 15X thin client computers for teachers resource room at Army Public School ASC Centre & College. Tender Enquiry/ Form (also uploaded on website www.apsasc.edu.in (procurement) for reference) to be collected from school office after payment of Rs.1000/- (DD in favour of APS ASC C&C) from **10 Nov 2023 to 17 Nov 2023** (1000hrs to 1300hrs). **Last date to submit filled tender form is** 18 Nov 2023 at 1130 AM.

Presiding Officer
For School Management

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Chennai Division-ENHM Wing (Mechanical Branch)
GEM Bid No. GEM/2023/8/4151700 dated 01.11.2023

Divisional Railway Manager/EnHM Wing/Mechanical Branch/Chennai Division, Chennai 600003, for and on behalf of President of India invites ONLINE Tenders for the following work as per tender notice given in the tender GEM portal The tendereris) /contractor(s) intending to apply for e-tender for outsourcing of Comprehensive cleaning of work at seven stations and two colonies MLMR VLCY PZA PRGL SKL Stations and AB Station and colony AVD Station and Colony for 731 days in Chennai Division, need to get enrolled in the e-tender through GEM portal and only online tenders will be accepted. The cost of tender form & EMD can also be paid online in GeM portal as per bid document.

Description: Comprehensive cleaning of work at seven stations and two colonies MLMR, VLCY, PZA, PRGL, SKL Stations and AB Station and colony AVD Station and Colony for 731 days.

Location: MLMR VLCY PZA PRGL SKL Stations and AB Station and colony AVD Station and Colony

Value (Rs.)	4,04,93,430.57/-
Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	3,52,470/-
Period of completion	731 days

Tender dosing date and time: 23/11/2023 at 15.00 hrs.
Tender opening date and time: 23/11/2023 at 15.30 hrs.

Detail of value of tender, tender form cost. EMD are given in GEM e-portal For bid submission please refer to Get web portal.

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Regional Office, Bengaluru
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E- Mail: engg.blrcwc@cewacor.nic.in / rmblr@cewacor.nic.in

PRESS NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

CWC invites online tenders from the following works:-

Name of work:- **Execution of Miscellaneous Repair /Maintenance, upgradation and Construction works in a cluster of central warehouses located on Annual Rate Contract Basis: (1) NIT No.06T/23-24** in Zone I –located at Yeshwanthpur, R.V Layout, CFS Whitefield, RWC Whitefield, RWC Mysore, Devanahalli,Tumkur: Estimated cost **Rs. 284.01 lakh (2) NIT No.07T/23-24** in Zone II- located at located at Dharwad, Belgavi, Nargund, Soundatti, Gadag-1, Gadag-II, Hubli Estimated cost: **Rs. 282.73 lakh (3) NIT NO. 08T/23-24** in Zone III – located at Gulbarga II Gulbarga I Bidar and Sedam: Estimated cost: **Rs. 204.23 lakh (4) NIT NO. CWC/RO_ BLR /ZMC/2023-24/09** in Zone IV – located at Davangere and Shikaripur, Estimated cost:- **Rs. 138.55 lakh (5) NIT NO. CWC/RO_ BLR /ZMC/2023-24/10** in Zone V – located at at Mannagudda and Panambur, **Estimated Cost: Rs. 115.59 lakh. For above all NIT's Last date of on- line submission on 17.11.2023 3:00 PM**

Detailed Tender Notice along with Conditions of Contract and Notice Inviting E-Tender may be seen and downloaded from the CWC's website **www.cewacor.nic.in** or e-tender website **www.cwceprocure.com** or CPP Portal **http://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app.** Further Corrigendum/Addendum to this Tender, if any, will be published on above websites only Press advertisement in Newspapers shall not be issued for the same.

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 43/MYS/2023
Dated: 03.11.2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

SL	Name of Works	Approx. Value
1	**Sub Work-I:** Yedamangala: Improvements to catch water drain 800m and catch water drain 600m on RHS cutting. **Sub Work-II:-** Assistant Divisional Engineer / Sakleshpur Division: Raising of side drain walls to avoid rolling down of ballast into drain, repairs to catch water drain, Repairs to eroded bed and scoured base of existing drain walls, improvements to damaged side drains (MCC and RR masonry) in Shiribagilu - Subrahmanya Road section.	Rs. 3,12,26,169/-
2	Hassan - Mangaluru Junction Section: Replacement of Existing Shallow Type Girder in Bridge No.473 (1 × 7.310M) at KM.129/000-100 with RCC BOX of size 1 × 7.50m × 4.65m between Kaniuru Halt - Narimogaru Stations. (Rolling/Launching Method)	Rs. 2,37,97,929/-
3	Mysuru-Hole Narsipur Section: Strengthening of Bridges from Km.40.00 to Km.86.4 by providing pitching, flooring, Drop wall, Steps, Ballast retainer etc (Total 80 No. of Bridges)	Rs. 97,94,359/-
4	Mysuru : Improvements to Video surveillance room at RPF Post, CCC / Second entry station building and Database Centre at Division office.	Rs. 7,95,727/-
5	Subrahmanya Road - Construction of sand rooms at Subrahmanya Road (2 Nos)	Rs. 6,93,306/-
6	Hassan - Mangaluru Junction Section: Painting of steel girder bridges due for the year 2021-22 under Senior Section Engineer / BR / Sakleshpur Jurisdiction. (Bridge Nos. 28, 56, 306, 309, 316, 385, 446, 485, 507, 582, 597, 20, 484 & 500) - Balance Work.	Rs. 39,26,635/-

Last date for submission of bids:
Up to 11:00 hrs. of 27.11.2023
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-Ord
PUB/482/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24 **Mysuru**
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

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BENGALURU

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AKSHAYANAGAR — DLF NEW TOWN Opp. Union Bank, Yelenahalli Main Road, Ph : 9731307230
NELAMANGALA — Sri Maruthi Complex, BH Road, Opp. to JCS, ITI College Ph : 9731306692 / 9686680755
BIDADI — Kenchanguppe Gate, Opp. HDFC Bank, Bangalore - Mysore Highway. Ph : 7702203254
KONANAKUNTE — Opp. to Soudhamini Chowltry, Nxt to Police Station Ph :9731306531
BEGUR — # 80, Hongasandra, Opp. Royal Concorde School, Bangalore. Ph : 080- 41499467 / 41625433, Mob : 9731306604
R.T. NAGAR — Opp. Police Station 080-23559977 / 9731307264
HOSKOTE — Next to Govt. Womens College. Ph: 9731306767
HENNUR MAIN ROAD — Diagonally Opp. to D'Mart. Ph : 48651500, 9731306596
UTTARAHALLI — Uttarahalli Main Road Near HDFC Bank. 080-49587474 Ph : 9731306547
WHITEFIELD — Ramagondanahalli, Next to Udupi Delicacy Hotel. Ph: 080-40984677 9513499851
YELAHANKA — New Town, Sharavathi Road, Next to SBI Bank. Ph: 9731306702
HEBBAGODI — Attibeli Hobli, Near Church, Opp. Biacon. Ph: 27849941 9731307257
HEGGANAHALLI — Peenya 2nd Stage, Vishwaneedum PO, Main Road. Ph: 9591997257, 080-28366565 / 66
MAHADEVPURA — Whitefield Main Road, Next to Brand Factory Close to Phoenix Marketcity. Ph : 080-48148975, 9148151731
KENGERI — 80Ft. Rd., Near Shirke Apts., Ph: 9731306634
VIJAYANAGAR — MC Layout, Chord Rd., Near Metro Station. Ph: 9731306631
MARATHALLI — Opp. Park Plaza. Ph:9731306703, 080-42200050
MATHIKERE — Bombay Dyeing Road Ph : 080-40974968 9731306641
HSR LAYOUT — 1st Sector, Dia. Opp to ICICI Bank Ph : 9731306550
BANASHANKARI — Opposite to Big Bazar Ph : 080-26691262 9731306572
JAYANAGAR — 40th Cross, 9th Main Ph : 080-26541050/51 9731306606
CHANDRA LAYOUT — Near Water Tank. 9731306558, 080-41503359
NAGARBHAVI — 6th Block, 2nd Stage, Opp. BDA Complex. Ph: 9731306616
CHANNASANDRA — Uttarahalli Main Road, Near RNSIT. Ph: 28613065 9731306766
THANISANDRA — King Space Meadows Apt., Nr. Railway Track Underpass Ph : 9731306763
SUNKADAKATTE — Janapriya Commercial Complex, Magadi Road, Ph : 080-23288940 / 942 9686680764
RAJAJINAGAR — Opp. Diacon Hospital 080-23134692 Ph : 9686446886
VIDYARANYA PURA — Opp. BWSSB 080-41721897 / 861 Ph : 9731306614
HRBR LAYOUT — Surya Plaza, Opp. Joyalukkas Kammanahalli Main Road 9731306571
RAMMURTHY NAGAR — Opp. MORE. Ph:8861007307 080-41638612 / 13
PUTTENAHALLI — Dia. Opp. to Brigade Millenium. Ph:9591997265 080-40954615 / 16
HULIMAVU — Near ShivSagar Hotel Ph : 9591997254 080-26483425
RAJAJINNAGAR PREMIUM STORE — Next to Cake Palace Ph : 41610910 / 9731306537
LG SHOPPE MARATHALLI — Ph: 080-42197907/08, 8861002259
LG SHOPPE RAJAJINAGAR — Ph : 9731306671
LG SHOPPE RAJARAJESHWARI NAGAR — Ph: 9591997261
PEENYA T-DASARAHALLI — Santosh Enclave, Land Mark Old Reliance Bldg. Ph: 9731306684, 080-28393199 / 28394199

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M BG-BGE

Over 55,000 IMA investors get second tranche of refunds

Investors complain it is too meagre and too late; they were given back the money as per the equitable distribution formula

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A file photo of IMA inverstors presenting details to the police at Shivajinagar in Bengaluru.

It was a surprise for Mubeena Khanum, a resident of Shanti Nagar, as she received a text message on her phone on Wednesday evening informing that her account was credited with ₹7,262 as part of the IMA refund.

She called other investors to cross check, who also confirmed that they had received similar messages. Ms. Khanum, a homemaker, had invested ₹3 lakh in 2017 as part of her savings in IMA, a halal investment scheme that went bust in 2019, to fund her son's education. "I shifted my son to a better school thinking I can pay the fee from the returns I get every month from IMA," she said. But luck ran out for her as the company shut after she received around ₹90,000 as returns. "I am happy that I received this money, but also sad at how little it is and how long I may have to wait to recover fully what is owed to me," she said.

Like Ms. Khanum, over 55,000 investors received part refunds as per the equitable distribution formula, approved by the city court, to share the ₹69.46 crore available with the competent authority after sale of movable assets, to investors. The Competent Authority categorised investors as most affected and least affected based on their deposit amount and payable dues and a formula evolved to disburse the available funds to them, according to which payments were made on Wednesday.

Officials cross checked the investor's accounts through a penny drop verification process and later made the payments on Wednesday evening. This is the second tranche of payments made and in an earlier round ₹19.62 crore was refunded to 6,800 investors.

There was a mixed response among investors on Wednesday. "While some are happy that they received at least something, most of them are unhappy over how meagre the settlement was. They are also anxious about the rest of their money," Arif Pasha, president of IMA Investors' Association, said.

The immovable assets of IMA and its directors are valued at ₹450 crore and are attached by the Directorate of Enforcement, which is also probing the IMA scandal.

The Competent Authority has now decided to move court seeking permission to auction these immovable assets and disburse the money recovered to investors further. This tranche of refunds will be substantial, it is believed.

Gang of eight held for abduction and murder of PU student

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The accused nursed a grudge against the victim over the issue of a girl and killed him

The Kolar police have arrested a gang of eight, including five juveniles who allegedly abducted and brutally murdered a 17-year-old PU student on November 3.

The accused who had abducted Karthik Singh, took him to an isolated place where they killed him before dumping his body.

One of the gang members had even recorded a video of the assault, which went viral on several social media platforms, helping the police zero in on the accused, who had fled to different locations after the crime.

Probe revealed that the accused nursed a grudge against Karthik over the issue of a girl and killed him after warning him to stay away from the girl, to which Karthik did not heed to. Two of the accused, who are over 18 years, were shot at by police in their leg when they allegedly tried to escape throwing mud into the eyes of the police while being escorted to the station. The two accused were admitted to hospital and are being treated.

B. R. Ravikanthe Gowda, Inspector General of Police (Central Range) said that the police will also initiate action against the family and friends who helped the accused to hide and escape after committing the crime.

Mr. Gowda also said that he has suspended the police inspector of Kolar town for deriliction of duty and failed to keep a tab on the accused who were involved in attempt to murder case few days ago, before this murder.

One of the accused who is juvenile is son of a head constable, hailing from Kolar. To reportedly keep his son away from bad company, the head constable had recently taken a transfer to a different town, but his son continued to come to Kolar and hung out with the gang and was involved in anti-social activities.

All the accused were drunk and killed Karthik under the influence of alcohol, police said.

Following the Karthik Singh murder case, the police are conducting a special drive to visit schools and colleges to create awareness to keep away from vices and bad company, to keep a tab on their anti-social activities, and sale of tobacco narcotics and alcohol to minors.

HAL and Airbus sign contract for establishing MRO facility for A-320 aircraft family

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

HAL and Airbus have signed a contract for establishing Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul (MRO) facilities for the A-320 family of aircraft.

"This collaboration with the largest European aircraft manufacturing company will strengthen the Make-in-India mission by achieving self-reliance in the aircraft MRO industry in India. HAL intends to establish an integrated MRO service in India and seeks to provide the commercial airlines a one stop MRO solution," HAL said in a statement.

Under the collaboration, Airbus will supply the A320 family tool package and offer specialised consulting services to HAL to establish MRO facility for A-320 family of aircraft.

MRO services

The partnership between HAL and Airbus will support the growing demand for MRO services in the country and expand the commercial fleet, especially the A320 family of aircraft, the Bengaluru-headquartered PSU said.

"HAL wants to establish an integrated MRO hub in the country and provide Airlines with an effective MRO solution. This step by HAL is also aligned to civil-military convergence and Make-in-India mission of Govt. of India," said Saket Chaturvedi, CEO (MiG Complex), HAL.

One of its kind

The facility once established will be one of its kind in India. HAL and Airbus collaboration envisages substantial reduction in lead-time, improved turnaround time and reduction in MRO costs, thereby increasing availability of the fleet for flight operations.

The MRO facility for the A-320 aircraft family would be established and ready for aircraft induction by November 2024 with required DGCA approval. In future, this Nashik facility will also be available for the entire Asian region after obtaining EASA approval in partnership with Airbus.

Rajyotsava: Konkani, Tulu, and Kodava find place in academics, but no takers for such courses

Shankar Bennur
Raviprasad Kamila
MANGALURU/MYSURU

Milagres College and St. Aloysius College in Mangaluru teach Konkani as a language paper at the undergraduate level. FILE PHOTO

While the drive has been to ensure primacy to Kannada in education, some of the non-Kannada languages spoken in various regions of Karnataka have also entered schools and colleges in recent years. Konkani and Tulu are being taught at both school and college levels, while Kodava has emerged as a subject of study at higher education. Beary is yet to make inroads into the academics.

However, though these languages are spoken by a large number of people, not many students opt for their study due to lack of job opportunities with their UG or postgraduate degree.

Konkani

Though Konkani was included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution in 1992, it was introduced as the third optional language in schools in the coastal districts (Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada) from Classes VI to X from 2007-08.

The University Evening College in Mangaluru, which is a constituent college of Mangalore University, introduced postgraduation in Konkani from 2016-17. Seven students have enrolled for postgraduation in the college for 2023-24. About 50 students have passed out of the college with MA degree in Konkani since the introduction of the course, says Jayavantha Nayak, co-ordinator, Konkani Adhyayana Peetha at the university.

B. Devdas Pai, a former co-ordinator, Postgraduate Studies in Konkani at the college and who was also a former Registrar of Karnataka Konkani Sahitya Academy, said that not more than 400 students are now enrolled to study Konkani in schools from Class VI to Class X. About 100 students appeared for the Konkani in SSLC every year.

Milagres College and St. Aloysius College in Mangaluru teach Konkani as a language paper at the undergraduate level. "Konkani has not been introduced as a language at the pre-university level as the Department of School Education and Literacy insists that at least 500 students who have taken Konkani as the third optional language paper will have to pass out SSLC every year," Mr. Pai told *The Hindu*.

Tulu

Tulu is being taught as the third optional language in schools in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts from Classes VI to X since 2010-11. It was introduced at the postgraduation level (MA) at the University Evening College from 2018-19.

M.K. Madhava, co-ordinator, Department of Postgraduate Studies (MA) in Tulu at the college, said that now 14 students are pursuing the course in the first year while there are 23 students in the second year. About 65 students have passed out so far.

Mr. Madhava, who is also the co-ordinator of SDM Tulu Adhyayana Peetha at Mangalore University, said that Alva's College in Moodbiri and Government First College, Car Street in Mangaluru, have introduced Tulu as a language paper at the undergraduate level. According to Karnataka Tulu Sahitya Academy, 35 schools in the twin districts taught Tulu from Classes VI to X with a total of 1,859 students during 2023-24.

Kodava

Kodagu University, one of the newest universities, offers MA in Kodava, PG Diploma in Kodava and a certificate course in Kodava. Kodagu University Registrar Seenappa said the courses in Kodava language are offered at the university and also in its constituent college.

The medium of instruction and examination is Kodava and Kannada script is used.

"But we don't have many students. Efforts are on to spread awareness about them for improving admissions. The intake of students for MA is 47 and for PG diploma and certificate courses is 35 each," he said.

Beary language

Abubakkar Siddique, co-ordinator, Beary Adhyayana Peetha, Mangalore University, said that the syllabus of the certificate course in Beary, which is yet to be introduced, is ready with the university. Beary has not been introduced in school, degree or post graduate level.

According to an estimate, about 20 lakh people might be speaking Beary in the world, he said adding that the government sanctioned the Peetha at the university in 2017 and it became active since 2021.

Exhibition of artworks

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of English, Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous, Bengaluru, as part of the National Conference 'Cityscapes: Interstices of Spaces and Memory, Retelling Metropolitan Chronotopes' presented an exhibition of Paul Fernandes' Artworks titled 'Bangalore in 30 frames', on Thursday.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Rev. Fr. Jais V. Thomas, Financial Administrator and Director, Jayantian Extension Services, KJC.

Nandini milk parlours launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka Cooperative Milk Producers Federation Ltd on Thursday launched two Nandini milk parlours in ITPL Tech Park's Food Court. Karnataka Milk Federation Chairman Bheema Naik, Managing Director Jagadeesh M.K., and senior officers were present on the occasion.

VTU introduces IKS course

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has adopted ancient mathematics, philosophy, Vedic corpus and other subjects under the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) course for the 6th semester engineering students from the current academic year.

The ability enhancement course has been replaced in the 6th semester with course of IKS, worth one credit.

The VTU said in its circular, "The traditional knowledge, philosophies, sciences and cultural practices that have grown over thousands of year in the Indian subcontinent make up the rich and varied Indian Knowledge System. It covers a broad range of topics such as literature, art, astronomy, yoga, philosophy, spirituality, mathematics and medicine."

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, NOV. 10	
RISE 06:16	SET 17:51
RISE 03:35	SET 15:49
SATURDAY, NOV. 11	
RISE 06:16	SET 17:51
RISE 04:21	SET 16:24
SUNDAY, NOV. 12	
RISE 06:17	SET 17:51
RISE 05:10	SET 17:03

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	30	22
Bengaluru	28	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower is likely to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light to moderate rain and thundershower.

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THE HINDU
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U.S. firm founded by Ballari doctor to build world's largest GenAI platform exclusively for health

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Vizzhy's team of 40 data scientists, medical professionals and researchers and deep tech experts based in Bengaluru will be working on this project. REUTERS

Texas-based Vizzhy Inc., a firm focussing on healthcare innovation leveraging multi-omics, is in the process of building what is claimed to be the world's first and largest multi-omics-based Generative AI platform on holistic health to help the common man, medical professionals and researchers.

Vizzhy's team of 40 data scientists, medical professionals and researchers and deep tech experts based in Bengaluru will be working on this project. To run the project, the company has imported the NVIDIA DGX H100, which claims to be the AI powerhouse and the foundation of NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD, that helps enterprises solve the biggest challenges with AI through its high performance.

Multi-omics (multiple omics) offer possibilities of holistic discovery across multiple levels of biology. By combining multi-omics data, researchers will be able to get a deeper, holistic understanding of molecular changes happening in the human body, and therefore physicians would be able to treat all kinds of ailments more effectively with significantly less, but precise medication. Multi-omics involve a comprehensive analysis of biological data, integrating genomics, proteomics, transcriptomics, and metabolomics to unravel intricate disease mechanisms and advance personalised medicine.

Dr. Vishnu Vardhan Pogunulu Srinivasalu, founder of Vizzhy Inc., is an orthopaedics doctor hailing from Ballari district in Karnataka. He has an MS, and an MBA in Business Administration and Science & Technology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

He told *The Hindu*, "What patients, especially the ones with multiple ailments, require is a holistic approach to understand their body and treat their complaints more effectively rather than treating patients with diverse medications prescribed by different specialists or super-specialists for different diseases triggered by metabolic issues.'"

Quoting a 2019 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) in the U.S., Dr. Srinivasalu said that some 88% of adults were metabolically unfit and the average adult gained 15 kg since the 1970s. A surge in metabolic diseases has propelled America's annual healthcare spending to over $4 trillion, surpassing India's GDP. Metabolic trends in India too were similar, or not satisfactory.

"This startling revelation prompted us to realise that the entire healthcare landscape required to be redefined. Transforming from specialists' medication model to a holistic medication approach, a more natural way of treating diseases effectively," he added.

Vizzhy's Generative AI platform would be able to generate a humongous amount of innovative medical data, meant for the public and patients, medical fraternity and researchers, further expanding the possibilities of research and treatment for metabolic diseases.

"These technologies thrive on global collaboration, aggregating original research, expertise, datasets, and computational capabilities. Our attempt is set to explore novel avenues in the management of lifestyle ailments, and it is about taming the AI to tackle the root cause of metabolic diseases," Dr. Srinivasalu said.

Invests ₹100 crore

To further its commitment to combat metabolic diseases through holistic approach, Vizzhy Inc has decided to invest over ₹100 crore ($12.5 million) in Sreenivasulu AI for Wellness Centre, at the Grainger College of Engineering.

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INBRIEF

'Kiran Mazumdar is second most generous woman philanthropist in India'

Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, executive chairperson, Biocon Ltd. and Biocon Biologics Ltd., has been recognised as the second most generous woman philanthropist in the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List. Her philanthropic contribution of ₹96 crore has benefited science, research & education, social & environment, and art & culture segments in FY 2023, which meant she spent over ₹26 lakh a day on these initiatives, as per a statement. This is the 10th year of the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy List.

Israel's Consul General meets Kumaraswamy at his farm

The Consul General of Israel to South India, Tammy Ben-Haim, met former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy at his Bidadi farm on Thursday and held discussion on various issues, including Karnataka-Israel relations. According to a release, she also shared information on the Israel-Palestine conflict situation. Ms. Ben-Haim said Israel authorities were keen to work with Karnataka on agriculture, science, technology, innovation, as well as culture soon after the war ends. She recalled Mr. Kumaraswamy's study tour to Israel in 2018 as the then Chief Minister.

After Vokkaligara Sangha, Veerashaiva Mahasabha too demands fresh caste census

Survey is eight years old and riddled with errors, says Congress MLA Shamanur Shivashankarappa

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Shortly after Vokkaligara Sangha, the All India Veerashaiva Mahasabha has also taken objection to the Socio-Economic and Education Survey, popularly called caste census, and demanded that the State government not accept its report. The Veerashaiva body has demanded that the entire exercise be redone.

The survey was conducted in 2015 during the previous tenure of the Congress.

These demands come even as Chairman of Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes K. Jayaprakash Hegde has said he would submit the report before his tenure ends on November 26, and

Shamanur Shivashankarappa

the Congress has been batting for a nation-wide caste census. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah also recently said that his government was committed to accepting the caste census report.

Shamanur Shivashankarappa, senior-most Congress legislator and president of the mahasabha, issued a statement on Thursday saying the caste census report was not "exhaustive" and said to be "riddled with errors."

"There are several complaints that the enumerators of this survey did not visit many households, which has reportedly led to undercount of the community. The survey is eight years old and riddled with errors. So we demand that the survey be conducted again in a transparent way, using the latest technology, enumerating every household," the statement said.

Vokkaliga meeting

Vokkaligara Sangha and prominent Vokkaliga seer Nirmalanandanatha Swami had also recently taken a similar stand, arguing there was a reported undercount of Vokkaligas and demanded that the government reject the survey report and reconduct the caste census.

Vokkaligas and Veerashaiva-Lingayats, the two dominant land-owning communities who claim to be among the largest communities of the State numerically, have reportedly been found in the caste census to be fewer in numbers than assumed. The census reportedly shows Dalit communities and Muslims to the largest in the State. The land-owning communities fear the changed caste arithmetic will lead to diminishing their hold over State politics.

However, the report has not been made public officially, though parts of it were leaked earlier. Presently, all claims on the findings of the survey are in the realm of speculation.

Develop plan to prevent man-animal conflict: Khandre to forest officials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Forest and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre has directed forest officials to develop a comprehensive plan to prevent man-animal conflict in the State.

Mr. Khandre, who chaired a meeting with senior officials of the Forest Department on Thursday, expressed concern over the increase in man-animal conflict. He asked officials to come up with a comprehensive plan which also involves use of innovative technology to address the problem.

Repeated sightings

The direction comes in the wake of repeated sightings of leopards in residential areas of Bengaluru and instances of man-elephant conflict in other parts of the State that has claimed lives in places like Kodagu and Mysuru districts.

Mr. Khandre also asked the officials to study the best practices followed globally and adopt them in the State.

Elephant population

"There are 6,395 elephants in the State and we are proud that Karnataka is the number one among States in India as far as elephant population is concerned. However, as the number of elephants increases, forest area is not increasing, instead it is decreasing. There is a need to come up with a way to deal with this situation," Mr. Khandre said

He said that the additional chief principal conservator of forests should visit forests where wildlife is present and inspect it at least two days in a week. He also suggested that if wild animals stray into urban areas the officers concerned should act as nodal officers until the animals return to the wild or are captured.

Coastal MLAs moot cruise tourism in State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With cruises growing in popularity amongst tourists in the last few decades, MLAs from the coastal belt in Karnataka, who met on Thursday, mooted a proposal to start cruise tourism in the State.

Briefing presspersons after the meeting, Mankala S. Vaidya, Minister for Fisheries and Ports Inland Transport, said a proposal on developing a cruise terminal in Karnataka was discussed at length at the meeting. The plan is to set up two new ports in Mangaluru and Karwar, he said.

A programme to mark World Fisheries Day will be held on November 21 at the banquet hall in Vidhana Soudha. The Fisheries Department has decided to introduce solar powered e-vehicles with cold storage facilities for sale of seafood, he said.

"We plan to give 300 e-vehicles to fish vendors across the State and in the first phase 150 will be given in Bengaluru through the Fisheries Development Corporation," he said.

High-speed corridor

Meanwhile, Ministers Dinesh Gundu Rao and Laxmi Hebbalkar, who are in charge of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi, respectively, held discussions with the European Business and Technology Organisation regarding the construction of the Bengaluru-Mangaluru Integrated Green Field High Speed Corridor.

This corridor will be helpful for the development of Mangaluru as well as other cities along the route. The proposal is to construct a six to eight lane high-speed corridor, said Mr. Gundu Rao.

"The high speed corridor from Bengaluru to Mangaluru will be very helpful in boosting the economy of Mangaluru. Connecting the corridor to Mangaluru port will also help in the growth of business enterprises," he said.

Stating that the corridor route map needs to be discussed in detail, the Minister assured that a meeting will soon be held to discuss the project with the Chief Minister and PWD Minister. "The State government will encourage such projects which will help in the sustainable development of Mangaluru. Private partnership is also needed for the implementation of such projects," he added.

Cabinet approval for Krishi Bhagya in 106 rain-fed taluks, hi-tech harvester hubs in 100 locations across State

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet on Thursday decided to implement the Krishi Bhagya scheme in the current financial year in 106 rain-fed taluks by spending ₹100 crore and set up 100 hi-tech harvester hubs across the State.

Briefing decisions taken at the Cabinet meeting presided by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Law and Parliamentary Minister H.K. Patil said the Krishi Bhagya scheme would be implemented in 106 taluks of 24 districts. About 152 farm ponds would be created in each taluk under the scheme. The previous Congress government (2013-18) launched the scheme.

Hi-tech harvester hubs would be established in 100 locations to provide hi-tech farm machines for harvesting crops to farmers on rent. The scheme would strengthen the Krishi Yantra Dhare scheme launched during the previous tenure of Mr. Siddaramaiah as the Chief Minister. Each hub would cost ₹1 crore. The government implemented Krishi Yantra Dhare for mechanised farming, under PPP mode, to provide facilities to farmers to use appropriate farm machineries at the required time on hire basis through custom hire service centres.

Law and Parliamentary Minister H.K. Patil

The Cabinet decided to implement the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana-II in five taluks - Badami, Nippani, Mandya, Channapatna, and Sirsi - by spending ₹38.12 crore. The cost would be shared by the Centre and State on 60:40 ratio. The project aimed to increase the watershed area, Mr. Patil said.

Under the PM Fasal Bima Yojana, the State has been divided into 10 clusters and different insurance companies given different clusters for crop insurance. The government is expected to incur expenses of ₹900 crore for paying the premium of the crop insurance. Six insurance companies - Reliance Insurance, Bajaj Allianz, Agricultural Insurance, SBI General Insurance, Universal Sompo General Insurance, and Future General Insurance companies have been allocated different clusters, Mr. Patil said.

The Cabinet authorised the Chief Minister to select the next Chief Secretary of State. As the incumbent Vandita Sharma is retiring on November 31, Rajneesh Goel is expected to be next head of the State bureaucracy, on seniority basis.

A sum of ₹18 crore was approved for holding a conference on Constitution and national integration in Bengaluru. The Social Welfare Department headed by H.C. Mahadevappa will conduct the conference on November 26.

Legislature session in Belagavi from December 4

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The winter session of the State Legislature will be held at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi from December 4. The State Cabinet has decided to hold the session for 10 days in the border district.

Change in birth, death registration norms

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Cabinet has decided to change the Karnataka Registration of Births and Deaths Rules, 1999, for the benefit of the public. Under the existing rule, any birth or death which has not been registered within one year of its occurrence, should be registered only on an order of a Magistrate of the first class or a Presidency Magistrate under section 13(3) and on payment of a late fee of ₹10.

The new rule has scrapped the powers given to the Magistrate and empowered the Assistant Commissioner to issue an order for registration of birth and death.

The fee has been increased from ₹10 to ₹500 for delay in the registration for more than a year. The fee increased from ₹2 to ₹100 in case of delay between 21 and 30 days.

The fee has been increased from ₹5 to ₹200 in case of delay from 30 days to one year.

Around 9.6 lakh children of construction workers to receive subsidy

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Ministers Santosh Lad and K.H. Muniyappa, and Chairman of the Legislative Council Basavaraj Horatti at an event in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Around 9.6 lakh children of building and other construction workers are set to receive subsidies released through welfare funds in the State.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who inaugurated a programme organised by the Labour Department to provide educational assistance for 2022-2023 to the children of building and other construction workers here on Thursday, said children should make use of the scheme for education. "Inequality can be eradicated through education," he said.

Second largest

"Those receiving subsidies are all children of unorganised workers. Over 83% of workers are unorganised even today. Apart from the farming community, the second largest community in the country is the labour class. In fact, the working class generates wealth in the country and the rest enjoy the benefits," he said.

'Vested interests'

The Chief Minister said: "These people with vested interests are opponents of social justice. They are against the Shudra community coming up economically and educationally. Therefore, we should oppose those who divide society in the name of caste and religion. We have implemented the guarantee schemes that benefit all castes and religions with the concept of universal basic income."

DVS announced retirement from electoral politics following high command's instructions: BSY

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after former Chief Minister D.V. Sadananda Gowda announced retirement from electoral politics, veteran BJP leader B.S. Yediyurappa said that Mr. Gowda had made the announcement after the party high command directly told him not to contest the next polls.

Mr. Gowda had claimed that he was retiring from electoral politics to make way for youngsters. In fact, answering a specific query, he had even denied any role of the party high command in his retirement announcement.

B.S. Yediyurappa

Mr. Yediyurappa told reporters in Bengaluru on Thursday that the party Central leadership had instructed Mr. Gowda not to contest the polls. After the instructions were issued to him, Mr. Gowda said that he would desist from contesting polls and that he would continue to serve the party organisation, Mr. Yediyurappa said.

Mr. Gowda, who is presently representing Bengaluru North constituency in the Lok Sabha, had recently expressed anguish over reports in a section of media that he was among those who are likely to miss the party ticket for the Lok Sabha polls. A few weeks ago, he had attracted political attention through his remarks that the party Central leadership should take the State leaders into confidence with respect to forging an alliance with the JD(S).

However, taking to X later in the evening, Mr. Yediyurappa claimed that his words were "misunderstood" by the media and Mr. Gowda was under no pressure from anyone to announce retirement. "He has taken a decision to make space for younger people," he said.

Meanwhile, accusing the Congress government of pursuing vendetta politics by stopping development works in the constituencies of BJP MLAs in Bengaluru, Mr. Yediyurappa announced that the party will stage a three-day Satyagraha either in front of Vidhana Soudha or in Freedom Park by the month-end.

Speaking to media persons during the party's drought assessment visit of R.R. Nagar Assembly constituency, he said the dates of the Satyagraha would be announced on Friday. He also alleged that contractors were not ready to continue with ongoing development works in most constituencies in Bengaluru as the government was demanding commission of 7.5% to 8%. R.R. Nagar MLA Munirathna said the Congress government had transferred ₹126 crore allocated to his constituency during the BJP regime.

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E-Tender Enq. No. 504/P-2/EMP-W-12371 Dtd 08.11.23 Dy.Chief Engineer/Headquarter (Procurement Cell-2) GGSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2023_POWER_112321_1 for Repair of Stator of HT Motors of GGSSTP, Rupnagar. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 09.11.23 onwards.

Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at *https://eproc.punjab.gov.in*

RTP-134/23 **76155/12/2386/2023/29691**

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Registration Department

TENDER NOTICE
TNREGN/1/2023-24

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders through online for data entry of Encumbrance Certificate details of Registration Department. The details of the tender is as follows:

1	Tender Inviting Authority	Additional Inspector General of Registration (S & R), O/o. Inspector General of Registration, No.100, Santhome High Road, Foreshore Estate, Chennai - 600 028.
2	Name of the Work	Data Entry of Encumbrance Certificate (EC) Details for Registration Department for the period from the year of 1950 to 1974
3	Purchase of Tender Document	The Tender document could be downloaded from the website https://tntenders.gov.in at free of cost from 10-11-2023 to 20-12-2023 upto 3.00 P.M.
4	Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.5,00,000/- (Rupees Five Lakhs only) should be paid through online mode.
5	Pre Bid Meeting	24.11.2023 at 3.30 PM at the address mentioned in Sl.No (1) above.
6	Due Date, Time & Place of submission of the tender	e-Submission through https://tntenders.gov.in on or before 20.12.2023 at 3.30 P.M.
7	Date, Time and Place of opening of the tender	Price Bid opening on 20.12.2023 at 4.30 P.M. and will be communicated to Technically qualified bidders only.

DIPR/5990/Tender/2023 **Additional Inspector General of Registration (S & R)**

What are green firecrackers and how to recognise them

There is a drive — by both government agencies and conscious citizens of Bengaluru — to ensure that only low polluting green crackers are sold and bought this Deepavali

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

The season of festivals -- Deepavali, Christmas and New Year that follow each other in quick succession -- is marked by cheer and fervour. But lurking behind it all is also the fear of air and noise pollution. One of the attempts to ensure that festivities do not come at the cost environment has been the drive to promote "green firecrackers." The Karnataka government has brought out guidelines stating that only less-polluting green firecrackers can be sold in the State.

A file photo of a shop selling CSIR NEERI-certified green crackers and fireworkers, at Kempegowda playground.

The genesis of the idea

It was back in 2018 that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Environmental Engineering Research Insititute (CSIR-NEERI) introduced idea of a greener festive season.

These less polluting firecrackers -- named SWAS, SAFAL and STAR -- are not only eco-friendly but 15-20 % cheaper than the conventional ones. Highlighting that the Indian Fireworks industry is worth over ₹6,000 crore of annual turnover and provides employment opportunities to over 5 lakh families directly or indirectly, CSIR back then claimed that this endeavour aims at addressing the pollution concerns while also protecting the livelihoods of those involved in this trade.

What they are made of

Green firecrackers are marked by reduced size of shell, elimination of ash usage, reduced usage of raw material in the compositions, and have a uniformly acceptable quality. They use additives as dust suppressants to reduce emissions with specific reference to particulate matter (PM). These crackers lack the barium compounds responsible for their unique green hue. Barium, a metallic oxide, is known to contribute to air pollution and noise pollution. When green crackers are ignited, they produce water vapor, thereby minimizing dust emissions. In terms of sound levels, green firecrackers generate noise ranging from 110 to 125 decibels, making them significantly quieter than traditional firecrackers, which typically produce around 160 decibels, resulting in nearly 30% less noise.

Government order after many accidents

Amidst multiple fire accidents in Bengaluru and a major firecracker accident that led to the death of 14 people in Attibele on the outskirts of the city last month, the Karnataka government on October 10 reiterated a slew of safety measures.

This included a ban on bursting conventional firecrackers during political processions, festivals, religious processions and marriages.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who along with his deputy D.K. Shivakumar held a high-level meeting on safety during Deepavali, said that the order was as per the Supreme Court order that says that only green crackers should be sold and used. The government has also decided to renew all licenses every year. At present, one license under the Explosives Act is valid for five years. The Chief Minister has instructed officials that licenses must be obtained by vendors every year on the basis of the previous year's performance.

Campaign by Bengalureans

Meanwhile, many environment-conscious Bengalureans have urged the Government of Karnataka to strictly ban the sale of non-green firecrackers. Recently, citizen activists Harini Raghavan, Srini Yelandur and Priya Chetty Rajagopal of Public Health Action (PACT) and The Compassionate City wrote a letter addressed to Home Minister G. Parameshwara, urging the ban on the sale of non-green crackers, monitor sales at sensitive areas, and to impose strict timings on when firecrackers can be burnt.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Harini said non-green crackers poison the environment, "Regular firecrackers have been poisoning the environment for long, which is why there is a need to increase awareness on the use of green firecrackers. We have requested the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to issue a circular for the public on the need to stop the usage of regular firecrackers and how to identify green crackers, conduct inspections, raids and more," she said. Though there is a ban on non-green crackers in Karnataka, there are many vendors who procure firecrackers from Hosur and other cities outside the State and sell them. "The KSPCB has been doing a great job keeping an eye on the vendors, however, a collective effort has to be put in by all civic bodies and all stakeholders like the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), the police department and others," Harini added.

The enforcement authorities

BBMP Commissioner Tushar Girinath said that though the onus is on the police department, the civic body will help identify and catch vendors selling non-green crackers, "It is the onus of the police department to keep track of fraudsters and vendors who will sell non-green crackers, as the licensing authority has been given to the police commissioner, and not the BBMP. The BBMP is responsible and authorised to only identify and allocate locations where the retailers can store and put up their stalls. The police department will conduct inspections, draw samples for lab tests and do frequent checks of the stalls and the wholesale shops," he said.

"However, the BBMP will assist the police department. We have prepared guidelines for our staff to understand their role at these stalls and how they must support the police department. The BBMP staff and inspectors will work along with the police and report to them about fraudsters in order to book cases," Mr. Girinath added.

A file photo of the crowd gathered to purchase crackers at a pandal in Udayabhanu Kala Sangha playground on Bull temple road.

A wholesale shop displaying the new variety of crackers and other fireworks at Chickpet.

Know your firecrackers

Green firecrackers can be distinguished by the distinctive green logo of CSIR-NEERI and Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), along with a Quick Response (QR) code. There are three distinct categories of green firecrackers:

SWAS (Safe Water Releaser): These firecrackers release water vapor into the atmosphere to minimize dust emissions. They emit 30% less particulate matter and do not contain sulfur or potassium nitrate.

STAR (Safe Thermite Cracker): STAR firecrackers are devoid of potassium nitrate and sulfur, resulting in reduced particulate matter emissions and a lower sound level.

SAFAL (Safe Minimal Aluminium): SAFAL firecrackers use less aluminum and more magnesium, producing less noise compared to traditional firecrackers. In addition to these well-defined categories, it is recommended to purchase green firecrackers from authorized stores rather than street vendors. The list of authorised vendors is available on the CSIR-NEERI website.

Government of Karnataka and C-CAMP co-host round table to develop road map for innovative healthcare solutions

One key approach discussed at the round table was deployment of new healthcare innovations in public health facilities in all districts

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka, and Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) held a Health Roundtable with various CSR and Philanthropic organizations to explore partnerships and funding opportunities for strengthening public health systems.

One key approach discussed at the roundtable was the deployment of new healthcare innovations in public health facilities in all districts. The meeting at Bengaluru was chaired by the Karnataka Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao.

According to a release by C-CAMP, the roundtable follows the formation of a strategic alliance between the Department of Health and Family Welfare and C-CAMP that aims to boost the state's public healthcare delivery through the implementation of indigenous innovations.

During the round table, Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao underlined the significance of affordability, accessibility, quality, and scale in any augmentation effort for public health systems.

Officials from the Health Department including D. Randeep, Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare, and Dr. Naveen Bhat, National Health Mission Director, participated. Also present were several industry heads and high-level officials from corporate organisations and philanthropies such as USAID, Infosys Foundation, ACT Capital Foundation, PATH, UNICEF, Novo Nordisk Foundation, Biocon Foundation, AstraZeneca, Cipla, HCL Foundation and Cognizant Foundation among others.

During the roundtable, Gundu Rao underlined the significance of affordability, accessibility, quality and scale in any augmentation effort for public health systems.

"Our aim is to make Karnataka a model state for healthcare that can be replicated by other states. Karnataka being the land of innovation and technology gives us a perfect opportunity to achieve this milestone. I believe, we can achieve this only through like-minded collaborations and partnerships," he said.

The round table follows the formation of a strategic alliance between the Department of Health and Family Welfare and C-CAMP

"The public-private partnership will enable us to mobilise funds to upgrade our healthcare facilities and also help us explore innovative technologies and modern practices, which can make our public healthcare more affordable and accessible."

"We are looking forward to ideas and are working towards a results-oriented approach and having a measurable impact," he further added.

Gundu Rao also noted that to reduce procedural challenges in last mile healthcare delivery, the government has brought in partners like C-CAMP to specifically address challenges in maternal and child health, non-communicable diseases, tuberculosis, eye health, and others.

C-CAMP Director-CEO Dr Taslimarif Saiyed said, "Our objective for today's Roundtable is to work on a roadmap for the next 3-5 years for the deployment of innovative, indigenous health solutions emerging from Karnataka by facilitating partnerships between Government of Karnataka, C-CAMP and CSR and philanthropic organizations."

He further said, "Such a PPP model will be pathbreaking for new technology adoption in the public health system, not only in Karnataka but nationally too. This is aimed to address some critical public health challenges, largely in semi-urban and rural populations."

"The pilot and scale-up programmes enabled by these projects will also hugely benefit deep science based entrepreneurial ventures based in Karnataka as the biotech capital of India."

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 10, 1973

Kali Project Power to be Shared in South

Bangalore, Nov, 10: The second stage of the Kali hydel project has now been included among four new projects of Karnataka for purposes of sharing the power generated by them with the States in the southern region.

While the State Government had indicated to the Planning Commission that it would be willing to share the power generated by the four new projects, the decision on the choice of fourth project had been reserved.

The four new projects are the Varahi, the Bedthi, the Sharavathi tailrace, and the Kali second stage. The total installed capacity of the four projects is 10,000 m.w.

Urs' Plan for Linguistic Harmony

Bangalore, Nov, 10: The renaming of the State as Karnataka should help generate a new enthusiasm among the people to solve the problems facing the State, Mr. D. Devaraj Urs, Chief Minister, stressed here to-day.

Mr. Urs was speaking at a reception accorded to him by the Kannada Mitra Sangha at Yeshwantpur. He said the renaming of the State no doubt fulfilled an aspiration of the people but that was not enough. People speaking languages worked together in factories and offices and emotional Integration should be fostered.

The Chief Minister emphasised that while they must love their own language, they should never forget that there were also people speaking other languages.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

NUGGETS OF HISTORY

Origin of silk in China in neolithic age

The production of silk, a natural protein fibre, is typically made out of cocoons of silkworms. It is believed that silk production began in China in early neolithic age, before reaching Japan and other parts of the globe. In fact, the trade route called the "Silk Route" derives its name from the highly lucrative trade of silk textiles that were produced in China.

Legends of silk production

Among the popular legends about the origin of silk is one related to a Chinese queen. The story goes that a silkworm cocoon fell into the teacup of a queen in China. She stumbled upon the lustrous fibre when a long thread began to unroll from the cocoon that she was trying to extricate from her drink. Eventually an entire trade and industry evolved.

How silk made its way to Indian subcontinent

Though Chinese are believed to have kept silk as a secret from the rest of the world for a long time, traders introduced silk cloth to India. Soon, it gained immense popularity among the royalty and aristocracy and became a symbol of prestige and wealth. Many traditions of weaving and intricate design evolved over the years.

Sericulture in Karnataka

While sericulture is known to have come to India through Buddhist monks, it was the 18th century ruler of Mysore, Tipu Sultan, who introduced sericulture in Karnataka. Today, Karnataka is the country's highest producer of silk with Mysore Silk even protected by a Geographical Indication (GI) tag. Mysore Silk is known for its unique smooth texture and fall.

Global spread of sericulture

Though sericulture remained a secret confined to China for several centuries after its discovery, historical accounts indicate that the technology to manufacture silk first reached Japan around 300 CE before spreading to other parts of the world, including the then Byzantine empire, Arab countries, and Western Europe.

How research and advanced technology helped India boost raw silk production

Mysuru-based Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute disseminates technologies developed in the laboratory, leading to increased production of bivoltine cocoons

Laiqh A. Khan
MYSURU

Though India is the world's leading consumer of silk, production of the lustrous and shiny fibre spun out of silkworms has consistently fallen short of the growing demand in the country.

But, statistics available from the Central Silk Board (CSB) show that raw silk production in India has recorded a significant increase during the last 10 years - up from 23,678 tonnes during 2012-13 to 36,582 metric tonnes during 2022-23.

Reasons for surge in production of silk

Scientists at Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute (CSRTI) in Mysuru, which is pioneering research in tropical sericulture, pointed out that India has managed to increase raw silk output by almost 13,000 tonnes during the last decade, bringing down its reliability on imports from China, on account of two main reasons - high yielding variety of mulberry plants and superior quality bivoltine cocoon breeds.

While the first reason was the adoption of high yielding variety of mulberry plants, whose leaves are the sole food for mulberry silkworms, the second reason is the substantial shift from rearing inferior quality multivoltine cocoons to the production of bivoltine cocoons, a hybrid variety that is high yielding and superior in quality.

CSRTI scientists, including its Director Dr. Gandhi Doss and Dr. M.K. Raghunath, recalled that local varieties of mulberry plants were yielding no more than 18 tonnes per hectare per year. After persistent research aimed at developing high-yielding mulberry varieties, a major breakthrough in leaf productivity and quality was achieved in 1997 when the institute came out with a new mulberry variety Victory -1 (VI). This variety has a yield potential of 60 metric tonnes per hectare per year. It has revolutionised silk productivity by covering up to 90% of mulberry gardens in southern Indian States over the last 25 years, the scientists pointed out.

The total area under mulberry plantations across India was 2.53 lakh hectares during 2022-23, up from 2.24 lakh hectares during 2017-18. Farmers have progressively uprooted the low-yielding mulberry variety and replaced them with the high-yielding variety VI

Bivoltine silk production increased from 2,559 tonnes in 2012-13 to 5,874 metric tonnes in 2017-18 before recording 8,904 tonnes in 2022-23. M A SRIRAM

The second major reason for the spike in raw silk production is the increase in the rearing of superior quality bivoltine cocoons suitable to India's temperate climate.

Women engaged in collecting the silk from cocoons.

India sought help from Japan

Much of the raw silk produced in India comes from the yellowish-coloured multivoltine cocoons while the high-quality silk used to manufacture the sought-after Indian saris was woven out of bivoltine silk imported from China.

Government of India had requested the government of Japan to provide technical assistance for bivoltine silk production in the nineties, paving the way for start of a Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA) project for promotion and popularizing of bivoltine technology in India.

Over the last two decades, personnel from the CSRTI along with officials from the Department of Sericulture have been engaged in disseminating the technologies developed in the laboratory, leading to increased production of bivoltine cocoons by the farmers.

Bivoltine silk production increased from 2,559 metric tonnes in 2012-13 to 5,874 tonnes in 2017-18 before recording 8,904 tonnes in 2022-23. Though multivoltine silk still accounted for 27,654 tonnes in 2022-23, the quantum increase in bivoltine silk production will not only help meet the country's demand for superior quality silk required for manufacture of sarees and garments, it will also bring down India's dependence on silk imported from China.

Improved breed

With bivoltine cocoons, a reeler needs only 6 kg of cocoons to produce one kg of raw silk against the 13 to 15 kg of cocoons that were required earlier. "This is possible due to the improved silkworm breed, mulberry variety and rearing technologies," said CSRTI scientist Dr. K. B. Chandrashekar.

Also, the individual cocoon filament length has increased from 600-800 metres to 1,000 to 1,200 metres, thereby reducing the cost of production of silk fabric.

Apart from high-yielding variety of mulberry plant and production of superior quality bivoltine cocoons, the other interventions by CSRTI that helped boost raw silk production in India include the shift from leaf feeding to shoot feeding, besides pest control measures and use of disinfectants.

"Earlier, mulberry leaves were plucked and fed to the silkworms. Now, the entire shoot of mulberry is fed, thereby saving labour and time," pointed out CSRTI scientist Dr. Bala Saraswathi S.

What is in pipeline

To further boost silk production, CSRTI is looking forward to release of disease-resistant and temperature tolerant breeds, which are still in the pipeline. The optimum temperature required in the rearing house for a silkworm to give its maximum output is anywhere between 24 to 26 degree centigrade.

"The new breeds will tolerate plus or minus two degrees, and offer better survival rate," said Dr. Chandrashekar. CSRTI-Mysuru has been pursuing research aimed at enhancing production and productivity of silk in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Kerala, besides Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, through its extension network comprising Regional Sericulture Research Stations and Research Extension Centres. The institute has also imparted training to more than 53,000 people, including farmers and 800 foreign nationals., in various aspects of sericulture technology, said Dr. Gandhi Doss.

Can tobacco farmers shift to sericulture?

According to CSRTI scientist C.M. Babu, sericulture is considered to be one of the most profitable agricultural activities

Laiqh A. Khan
MYSURU

Amid the clamour for shifting from tobacco crop to other crops in view of the serious health hazards tobacco consumption poses, sericulture has been mooted as a viable alternative.

But, scientists are Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute (CSRTI) in Mysuru were guarded at the prospect. For, the soil on which tobacco has been cultivated would contain toxic elements and cannot be straightaway used for growing mulberry, whose leaves are the only source of food for the silkworms, pointed out Dr. R. Bhagya, a scientist at CSRTI, who leads the extension activities of the Institute.

However, a senior scientist at CSRTI Dr. K.B. Chandrashekar pointed out that a shift from tobacco to mulberry can happen only after the tobacco contaminants and toxicity in the soil is removed by growing crops like maize for a year or two.

Tobacco crop renders the soil toxic. "We cannot grow mulberry on the same soil as the silkworms will not accept the mulberry leaves grown directly on soil that had been used to cultivate tobacco. The silkworms may not spin a cocoon," the scientists cautioned.

As silkworms are considered to be very sensitive, a high degree of caution is recommended.

The improved variety of mulberry plant V1. in Ramanagara. M. A. SRIRAM

It is not just soil on which tobacco crop has been grown. Even the soil on which ginger had been cultivated is similiarly not advisable for cultivation of mulberry straightaway," according to a scientist.

CSRTI Director Dr. Gandhi Doss, however, said the Institute was ready to support any Government move to introduce sericulture in the tobacco-growing areas of the State along with the Government of Karnataka's Department of Sericulture.

Silkworms feeding on mulberry leaves in Ramanagara.

A host of farmers growing various crops including horticultural crops visit CSRTI to explore the options of shifting to sericulture. Among them tobacco farmers too make inquiries and they are suitably advised, said Dr. Bhagya.

According to CSRTI scientist C.M. Babu, sericulture is considered to be one of the most profitable agricultural activities. Apart from the Government subsidies sericulturists are entitled to, they can grow a crop almost every month. While the silkworm larval duration is 24 to 26 days, the cocoons are marketed on the seventh day.

"In one acre of mulberry garden, a farmer can harvest annually between 800 to 1,000 kgs of cocoons if he adopts all the recommendations given by our Institute," said Dr. Babu. A kg of bivoltine hybrid cocoons fetched a maximum price of ₹600 minimum price of ₹311 and an average of ₹526 at the cocoon market in Ramanagaram on October 31. A scientist also pointed out that the prices of cocoons had breached the ₹1,000 per kg about two years ago.

Despite the seasonal fluctuations in prices, cocoon prices are considered to be more stable than other agricultural commodities, Dr. Babu added.

INBRIEF

KCR files nomination papers from Gajwel and Kamareddy

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president and Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao filed his nomination papers for Gajwel Assembly constituency in Siddipet district and Kamareddy on Thursday. He contested for the Gajwel seat and won it both in 2014 and 2018 elections. Mr. Rao opted to contest from Kamareddy in addition to Gajwel this time.

Party will support BJP, Modi with all its might: JSP chief

Jana Sena Party (JSP) president Pawan Kalyan said in a message on 'X' (formerly Twitter) on Thursday that the "nation needs Narendra Modi and his party will support the BJP and the Prime Minister with all its might to make his Vision 2047 a reality." Mr. Pawan Kalyan described Mr. Modi as a visionary leader who is "crucial for the nation," as he had the ability to look beyond immediate challenges, devising innovative solutions and inspiring progress.

HC dismisses petition against selection of Sabarimala priest

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Thursday dismissed a writ petition challenging the selection of Mahesh P.N. as chief priest of the Sabarimala Ayyappa temple. The Bench said it did not find any reason to interfere with the selection. The petition was filed by Madhusoodanan Namboothiri of Thiruvananthapuram alleging that the piece of paper containing the name of Mr. Mahesh was not rolled by both palms by the Special Commissioner before it was deposited into the pots, as was done in the case of the other lots.

Police in T.N., Karnataka to quiz Maoists held in Kerala

Anti-naxal squads from two neighbouring States are in touch with Special Operations Group of Kerala to get probe details; ballistic experts to track the source of weapons seized from them

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

The anti-naxal squads from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka will soon interrogate the three suspected Maoists – Srimathi alias Unnimaya, Chandru, and Aneesh Babu alias Thampi – who were arrested by the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Kerala Police recently. Officers from the two States are in touch with the SOG to gather the preliminary investigation details.

Police sources reveal that the two main Maoist functionaries, Srimathi, a native of Karnataka, and Chandru, a native of Tamil Nadu, who were nabbed after a gunfight in Wayanad on Tuesday night are suspected to be the brains behind a series of attacks in southern States. The two have been remanded in police custody but are yet to reveal anything about their activities though the SOG is continuing their interrogation.

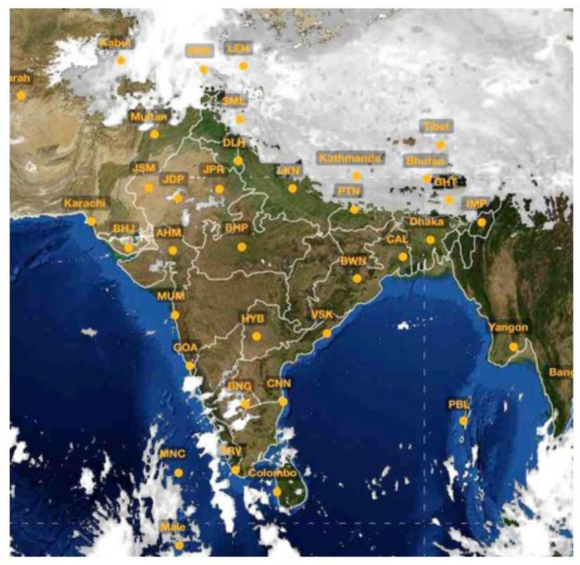
In the net: Aneesh Babu, suspected Maoist accomplice, being brought to Kozhikode District Sessions court. K. RAGESH

Aneesh Babu, a native of Tamil Nadu who was remanded in police custody on Thursday for allegedly working as a messenger for Maoists, has also been evading questions. According to the police sources, Aneesh Babu, arrested from Koyilandy, has contacted the other two many times to exchange various confidential communications and parcels.

The source of an INSAS rifle and an AK-47 rifle seized from the Maoists during the Wayanad encounter still remains mysterious. Ballistic experts are now at work to find out the origin based on the arms' serial numbers. The SOG suspects that these could have been weapons stolen after ambushing CRPF jawans at various locations.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	30.3	18.7	Kozhikode	14	33.4	24.2
Ahmedabad	—	36.5	19.9	Kurnool	—	33.9	24.7
Aizawl	—	27.0	12.6	Lucknow	—	31.0	16.5
Allahabad	—	34.2	17.8	Madurai	—	30.2	22.7
Bengaluru	—	27.6	20.6	Mangaluru	24	29.2	22.6
Bhopal	—	34.2	17.3	Mumbai	—	35.6	25.4
Bhubaneswar	—	31.6	18.5	Mysuru	6	29.9	21.8
Chandigarh	—	30.2	15.5	New Delhi	—	30.7	15.5
Chennai	7.5	30.7	25.8	Patna	—	30.3	17.9
Coimbatore	0.4	29.7	21.0	Port Blair	—	32.1	25.4
Dehradun	—	28.8	12.2	Puducherry	—	32.0	24.1
Gangtok	—	18.5	11.7	Pune	—	32.0	20.5
Goa	6.2	32.6	22.5	Raipur	—	33.1	19.3
Guwahati	—	31.0	17.8	Ranchi	—	28.6	14.0
Hubballi	—	27.0	21.0	Shillong	1	20.5	10.4
Hyderabad	—	30.8	21.8	Shimla	—	22.0	12.0
Imphal	—	27.1	13.1	Srinagar	—	17.6	2.5
Jaipur	—	32.3	18.8	Thiruvananthapuram	22	32.0	24.0
Kochi	26	30.4	24.0	Tiruchi	2	30.3	23.6
Kohima	—	23.4	9.6	Vijayawada	2	32.6	25.0
Kolkata	—	31.0	20.9	Visakhapatnam	—	32.4	25.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.19	.87	.44	209	205	
Bengaluru	7	19	.40	93	92	
Chennai	.26	.43	.61	55	43	
Delhi	.11	172	156	454	405	
Hyderabad	2	.26	.54	108	109	
Kolkata	.10	.97	.35	318	208	
Lucknow	8	.94	.88	352	361	
Mumbai	5	.49	.18	150	147	
Pune	127	207	112	121	90	
Visakhapatnam	—	—	.29	—	—	—

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 439 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

SC likely to decide on Naidu's plea in skill development scam after Deepavali break

Chandrababu Naidu

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday said it is likely to pronounce judgment on a plea by former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to quash criminal proceedings against him in the skill development 'scam' case after the Deepavali vacations and adjourned his separate petition for anticipatory bail in the FiberNet case.

A Bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi had reserved the judgment in the skill development case on October 17.

On Thursday, when the FiberNet case was taken up, the judges said the verdict in the other case may be pronounced post the court holiday for Deepavali between November 13 and November 18.

Justice Bose told senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, for Mr. Naidu, to wait for the judgment before hearing began in the FiberNet case. The Bench said there were certain "overlapping issues" in both cases.

The court had in October drawn an oral assurance from the State to not arrest Mr. Naidu in the FiberNet case.

More than 15 products from Uttarakhand bag GI tags

Sangeetha Kandavel
CHENNAI

From a local brick-tea to textiles made from a Himalayan plant, over 15 products from Uttarakhand have been given the coveted GI tag by the Geographical Indications Registry.

Uttarakhand's Berinag tea, highly sought-after by London tea houses and tea blenders, is made from the leaves of a plant that grows wild in the Himalayas, which are then compressed into a solid mass. *Bichhu buti* fabrics, made from Himalayan nettle fibres, was also on the list of products that bagged the GI tag.

The Uttarakhand *mandua*, a finger millet grown in Garhwal and Kumaon that is part of the staple diet in many parts of the State; *jhangora*, a home grown millet cultivated in the rain-fed areas; *Gahat*, one of the most important pulses whose medicinal uses have been known to Ayurveda and traditional physicians for centuries; and Uttarakhand *lal chawal*, a red rice organically grown in the Purola region, were also on the list.

Other products to receive GI tags included the Uttarakhand *kala bhat* (black soybean), malta fruit, *chaulai (ramdana)* a grain used on fasting days, *buransh* juice obtained from the red flowers of the Rhododendron arboreum, *pahari toor dal*, Uttarakhand *likhai* or wood carvings, Nainital *mombatti* (candles), the *rangwali pichhoda* of Kumaon, Ramnagar Nainital litchis, Ramgarh Nainital peaches, Chamoli wooden Ramman masks, and Almora Lakhori *mirchis*, a chilli variant.

Irregularities in KEONICS to be probed by Nagmohan Das panel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Launching a counter-attack on the Opposition BJP that has accused him of indulging in corruption in KEONICS, IT&BT and RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge on Thursday announced that he would hand over investigations into alleged irregularities during the erstwhile BJP regime, unearthed by the CAG, to the Justice Nagmohan Das committee.

The committee is already looking into the allegations of payment of commission for awarding contracts and paying bills during the BJP regime.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, Mr. Priyank said the CAG report had unearthed irregularities to the tune of ₹500 crore in the transactions and procurements made by KEONICS. He said such a probe by the committee will throw more light into the irregularities and help identify the guilty. Stating that the findings of the CAG report had clearly shown that irregularities had taken place during the earlier regime, he remarked that the BJP had unleashed its "factory of lies" to cover up its own misdeeds.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah Minister and RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge at the inauguration of Philips Innovation Campus in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Denying the BJP's charges that bills of contractors had not been settled as they had not paid commission, he said all the bills had been paid but for a few totalling up to ₹16 crore. Even those bills had been kept pending as per instructions as they were yet to be subject to third party inspection to ensure authenticity which was a mandatory norm as per the Finance Department's protocol, he said.

Philips campus

Meanwhile, Mr. Priyank, along with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, on Thursday morning inaugurated the Philips Innovation Campus in Bengaluru. The campus is 6,50,000 sq.ft. and can accommodate 5,000 professionals. Roy Jakobs, CEO Royal Philips, was present at the event.

Ensure installation of audio alerts even in private buses to help visually-challenged: Karnataka HC

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday said that the State government on its own may issue a circular asking even private bus operators, who ply buses across the State by taking permits, to install audio-alerts/voice-based announcement system to help visually-challenged persons.

The court also asked the State's public transport corporations to take further steps to make their app visually-challenged friendly based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), which defines how to make web content more accessible to people with a wide range of disabilities, including visual, auditory, physical, speech, cognitive, language, learning, and neurological disabilities.

A Division Bench passed the order during the hearing on a PIL petition filed by N. Shreyas, a visually-challenged lawyer, who personally argued his petition.

When the public transport corporations have been asked to ensure installation of audio-alerts/voice-based announcement system, it would be a fair and reasonable approach if the State government asks the private bus operators to install such facility in their buses.

Earlier, the petitioner pointed out that the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation has an app for passengers and it would be of great help for the disabled, if it was upgraded as per WCAG.

Following this, the Bench asked Mr. Shreyas to give a detailed representation to the transport authorities for making the app WCAG compliant and asked the authorities take further steps in this regard.

Meanwhile, the Bench granted time to the BMTC and the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation to provide detail on buses having audio-alerts/voice-based announcement system.

Ban on online gambling won't apply to poker, rummy: Madras HC

Mohamed Imranullah S.
CHENNAI

The Madras High Court on Thursday refused to strike down the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Online Gambling and Regulation of Online Games Act, 2022 in its entirety, but ruled that the prohibition would apply only to games of chance, and not to games of skill such as rummy and poker.

The first Division Bench said the State government had miserably failed to demonstrate how rummy and poker, which have been declared as games of skill by the Supreme Court, would become games of chance when played online. "The contention of the State that the petitioners (online gaming companies) may use bots is without any basis. The said propositions, on behalf of the State, are merely on surmise," the Bench said, and pointed out that the 2022 Act deals only with online games.

"The State could not gather evidence about bots being used or that the software knows all the cards in the hands of each player, so also the unopened cards or that the software could change unopened cards. In the absence thereof, it will be too far-fetched to arrive at a decision on the basis of assumptions by the State."

Kerala opens eco-friendly cottages near Idukki dam

The Hindu Bureau
IDUKKI

The Kerala Tourism Department has constructed 12 eco-friendly cottages in Idukki and inaugurated them on Thursday.

The cottages are build in Vazhathope panchayat, near the Idukki arch dam. The eco-lodge project, a joint State-Centre initiative, is part of the Swadesh Darshan Scheme of the Central government.

On Thursday, Tourism Minister P.A. Mohamed Riyas virtually inaugurated the eco-lodges. Mr. Riyas said that Idukki district contributes a lot to the development of the State's tourism sector.

"A sum of ₹1.27 crore has already been sanctioned for the Ethnic Villages project, which will initially begin in Idukki district. The project will be jointly set up by the Responsible Tourism Mission and the Idukki District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC)," said the Minister.

Eco-lodges constructed near the Idukki arch dam as part of a joint initiative State and Central government. THE HINDU

Mr. Riyas said the Kerala Tourism has a vast potential to attract more tourists to the State. "Pilgrimage tourism is another potential of Kerala and microsites are being prepared for various pilgrim centres of the State. A multilingual microsite has already been prepared for Sabarimala. Information such as the routes to pilgrim centres and the accommodation facilities near them is being prepared," said Mr. Riyas.

"Cinema tourism is another project which seeks to showcase prime locations featured in popular film in different parts of the State to attract tourists. There are many such locations in Idukki and the Tourism Department will take initiatives to develop Cinema tourism in major centres of the district," said Mr. Riyas.

DTPC secretary Jitheesh Jose said the eco-lodges will boost tourism prospects in the Cheruthoni area. "The tourists will get premium accommodation with a minimum rate and can visit Kalvari Mount, Idukki and Cheruthoni dams, Settlement Monuments, Hill View Park and Idukki DTPC park," said Mr. Jose.

According to officials, the fully wooden cottages were constructed in a 25-acre area. The lodges were constructed at a cost of ₹6.72 crore. The Central government allotted ₹5.05 crore and the State Tourism Department allocated ₹2.78 crore for the project. The per day rent is fixed for each cottage at ₹4,130.

The cottages can be booked through the Kerala Tourism website.

BENGALURU METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION

Stores & Purchase Department, Central Offices, K.H. Road, Shantinagar, Bengaluru-560 027.

No: BMTC/CO/COSP/Tender/11/2023-24 Date: 09.11.2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender is invited through KPPP portal for the following services:

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Description	Last date for bid submission in KPP portal
Regular Tender			
1	BMTC/2023-24/ SE0192	Engaging Goods Transport Agency for to & fro transportation of stores materials from Central Stores to Depots of BMTC.	24.11.2023 @14.30Hrs.

*For more details visit **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES AND PURCHASES (Tender Inviting Authority)

Executive Engineer
Public Works Department
No.1 Building Division, S.J.P. Campus, Bengaluru. Ph: 080-22255210

No. EE/Bld.1/AE-3/17/2023-24 Date: 08.11.2023

INVITATION FOR SHORT-TERM TENDER (IFT)

The above Department invites Tenders through e-procurement portal of GoK (**http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) from eligible Tenderers for the works of Construction of proposed waiting lounge and scanner room for existing KPSC Premises, Bangalore (Work Indent: PWD/2023-24/BD/WORK_INDENT6006). Approx. amount put to Work: **Rs. 74.95 lakhs.** E.M.D.: **Rs. 1,50,000/-.** Cost of Document: As in e-portal. Period of Completion: 9 Months (including rainy season). Last date for downloading Tender through e-procurement portal and submission through online: **17.11.2023 up to 5.00 PM.** Date of opening the Tender: as mentioned in e-procurement **on 18.11.2023 at 5.30 PM.** Further information can be obtained from the above office or from e-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/DD-C.P/2051/KSMCA/2023-24 **Sd/-Executive Engineer**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/TZ/EE(C)-2/AEE(C)-2/2023-24/13819-24 Date: 09.11.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites tender for the following works through E-Procurement mode only.

1) Providing RCC Retaining wall cum solid block security compound wall at 66/11Kv S/s Bannerghatta. (2nd Call). **Estimate cost: Rs.2,67,65,000/-** (Inclusive of all taxes).

2) Construction of periphery compound wall at 66/11kV substation BEML, KGF, Malur, TL&SS Division, Kolar. (2nd Call). **Estimate Cost: Rs.62,00,000/-** (Inclusive of all taxes).

3) Repair and Maintenance of Admin. block, Hostel block and Sports block of HRC Centre, Hoody. (4th Call). **Estimate Cost: Rs.90,00,000/-** (Inclusive of all taxes).

Further details of the tender can be obtained from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink "E-Procurement" on or after **16.11.2023.**

Sd/- **Chief Engineer, Electy, Transmission Zone, KPTCL, Anand Rao Circle, Bengaluru-09. Ph: 080-22356320.**

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKET COMMITTEE, KOLAR

PH-08152-297070/297071

No.APMC/KLR/458/2022-23 DATE: 16.10.2023

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Competitive E-Tenders are invited for the Construction of Covered Auction platforms and Construction of Shops on 1st Floor in Apmc Yard Kolar under 2023-24 AAP from STD KW-3 Eligible PWD Registred contractors, **Tender: Rs. 89,97,790/-, E.M.D. Rs. 1,76,000/-, Period 5 Months. (1)** Pre bid meeting on **15.11.2023 at 11.00 AM at Apmc Kolar. (2)** Last Date for Receipt of Tenders on **22.11.2023 Up to 5.00 PM.** Tender eligibility Terms and Conditions, and other details can be obtained from this Office or E-Tender Website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in (APMC/2023-24/OW/WORK-INDENT 75)** or Contact Mobile No. 9663404695.

Sd/- (N.Vijayalakshmi) Secretary **Sd/- (Akram Pasha) Administrator**

DIPR/KOLAR/RO:197/KSMCA/2023-24

BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
BANNERGHATTA BIOLOGICAL PARK, BENGALURU - 83.
Phone No: 8884414268 E-mail: bannerghattazoo@gmail.com

No:A3/BBP/e-Tender/S.Guards/CR-1/2023-24 Date: 03-11-2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Director, Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bengaluru herein after referred as Tender Inviting Authority, has invited e-Tender for **"Providing Security Personnel for One year" i.e. for the year 2023-24 on Percentage of Service Charges basis.**

Detailed tender documents may be downloaded from the Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Tenders may be submitted along with the EMD and tender processing fees electronically in e-Proc **on or before 22-11-2023 upto 16.00 Hrs.** Technical bid will be Opened **on 25-11-2023 at 11.30 Hrs. onwards** and Financial Bid will be Opened **on 29-11-2023 at 11.30 Hrs. onwards.**

Sd/-
Executive Director

DIPR/CP/2052/Adverto/2023-24

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SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Corrigendum-1 to E-Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/EPC/61/2023 Dated:22.08.2023

Item of Work	Appx. Value
Construction of Important Bridge No. 195 at Ch: 147/385 across Krishna river in Gadag-Wadi New Line Project (257 Km) **(Tender Ref. No.: KRISHNA-RIVER-BR-195-EPC)**	Rs. 281,29,93,913.44

Date of Closing	
Existing	Revised
17.11.2023 (15:00 Hrs)	CANCELLED

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/Works
Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/486/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our client - Sri.B.Somakumar, S/o Late Byrappa.G.H., Aged about 76 years, residing at No. 28, "Nandana", Swimming Pool Extension, Avenue Road, Bangalore- 560003 – Aadhar 7817 6562 8465, instructed us that sale executed by Sri Vinayaka HBCS, in favour of his mother – Smt.Mariyamma vide sale deed dated 05.11.1979, registered as Document No.3193/79-80, Book-I, Volume No.3136, Page 60, in the office of the Sub-registrar, Bangalore North Taluk has been lost or otherwise not traceable even with best of efforts to find out the same. Our client has lodged a complaint with Bangalore City Police in Lost Report No.0796813/2023, dated 06.11.2023. Hence, the public is hereby notified that anyone is in possession of the above said original document the same may be handed over to the under mentioned address /contact us through below mentioned mobile number within 15 days from the date of this public notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of residential property bearing No.44(duly formed by Sri Vinayaka HBCS Ltd), situated in Vinayaka Layout, Boopasandara, Bangalore- 560094, Ward No.100, coming within BBMP limits, with PID No.100-11-44, measuring East to West: 40 Ft, and North to South: 30 Ft, in total 1200 Sq.ft, with building thereon and bounded on

East by:Private property No.45;
West by:Private property No.43;
North by:Road;
South by:Private property.

Sd/-
AH Associates, Advocates & Solicitors
ASHOK HANDE, Advocate
Bangalore -560 055. M: +91 98454 55484

Place: Bangalore Dated: 10/11/2023

KMF Karnataka Co-Operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited

KMF Complex, Dr. M. H. Marigowda Road, DRC Post, Bangalore-560 029. Tel: 080-25536789 / 26096834
Fax: 080-25536105

IFT No.KMF/ENGG/CFP-SHRPURA/UPGRADATION OF SCADA/2023-24/CALL-2 Date: 10.11.2023.

TENDER NOTIFICATION

[Two cover System] [Through e-procurement Portal only]

Karnataka Milk Federation Ltd; Bangalore invites tender through e-procurement portal for the works mentioned in the below table. The interested and eligible firms may participate in the tender by logging on to website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in & also contact Help desk No.-080 23010900 / 23010901 E-mail: hphelpdesk.blr@intarvo.com.

Sl. No.	Name of the work	Qty.	EMD (in Rs.)	Tender Period
1	Upgradation of SCADA system software for Batching section and supply of Computers and IPC for CFP, Shikaripura.	1 Job	50,000/-	4 Months

1)Tenders may be downloaded from dated 10.11.2023 to 20.11.2023 up to 4-00 PM. 2) Last date for Tender submission on 20.11.2023 up to 4.00 pm 3) Tender [Part 1] to be opened on 21.11.2023 at 11:30 AM. Hence forth changes / modification in the tender, It will be uploaded on e-procurement portal only.

For Karnataka Co-Op. Milk Federation Ltd.,
Sd/- Director [Engineering-2]

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Or write to us at customercare@thehindu.co.in
Scan the QR code to register your feedback
THE HINDU businessline. FRONTLINE SPORTSTAR Young World THE HINDU

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL
ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE
AGRAM - POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677
Website: www.apsasc.edu.in

Tender Notice

Sealed quotations are invited for construction of new synthetic basketball, volleyball and badminton court under the assembly shed near tuck shop at Army Public School ASC Centre & College. Tender Enquiry/Form (also uploaded on website www.apsasc.edu.in (procurement) for reference) to be collected from school office after payment of Rs.1000/- (DD in favour of APS ASC C&C) **from 11 Nov 2023 to 30 Nov 2023** (1000hrs to 1300hrs). Last date to submit filled tender form is **05 Dec 2023 at 1130 AM.**

Presiding Officer
For School Management

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 57th ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH 58) O.S. No. 25859/2023
Hg: 02/01/2024

BETWEEN :
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001, Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh, Aged about 24 years, D/o. Mr. Anil Kumar Singh
V/S
MR. ARUNKUMARAN RAMASWAMY

Summons to Defendants

1. MR. ARUNKUMARAN RAMASWVAMY,
S/o Ramaswamy,
Aged about 35 years,
No. 33, Ganesh Nilaya, 1st Cross, Indra STRS Paliya Bangalore Near Kullapa Circle, Bangalore- 560033.

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 8,33,531.51/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Thirty Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty One and paisa Fifty One Only)** apart from future interest of 8.25%, p.a., in **O.S.No. 25859/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 58** Before 57th Addl. City Civil and Session Judge, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **02nd** day of **January, 2024** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **06th** day of **November, 2023.**

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil, Court Mayohall,
Bengaluru- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No. 11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
Bengaluru- 560 005

IN THE COURT OF THE XL ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-41) O.S. NO. 501/2021

Between :
M/s ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at : Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara-390007, having its head office at : M/s. ICICI Bank Ltd., No. 1, Shobha Pearl, 2nd Floor, M.G. Road, Commissariat Road, Bangaluru- 560025, and branch office at : 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru- 560068 through its Authorised representative.
Mr. Pramodh. G ...Plaintiff
And :
Mr. Kiran Kumar Nunna
...Defendant

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Defendant :
1. MR. KIRAN KUMAR NUNNA, House of Chandra Reddy Old No. 48, New No. 4, 3rd Main Venkatapuda, 8th C Cross, Ramu Dry Cleaner Bengaluru- 560034.

Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of **Rs. 10,65,900/-** along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the XL Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H. 41), in person or by a pleader, on the **19th day of December 2023** at 11:00 A.M. to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the **11th day of October** 2023 at Bangalore.

By order of the Court,
Assistant Registrar
Hon'ble City Civil Court,
Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar
Vidhii Partners, Advocates,
No. 701, Queens Corner 'A',
3 Queens Road,
Bengaluru- 01.

IN THE COURT OF 57th ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BANGALORE (CCH 58) O.S. No. 25842/ 2023

BETWEEN :
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh
Aged about 24 years
D/o Mr. Anil Kumar Singh
AND :
1.MR. VENKATA NARENDRA. K
S/o Mr. Hanumnantha Rao Kumitha, Aged 34 years, Allegis Services India Pvt Ltd, Banerghatta Road, Bangalore-560076.

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs.12,43,918.40 (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Forty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Eighteen and paisa Forty Only)** apart from future interest of 24% P.A., in **O.S. No. 25842/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 58**, Before 57th Addl. City Civil Sessions Judge Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **02nd** day of **January, 2024** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **06th** day of **November, 2023.**

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
BENGALURU- 560 001.

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF 74th ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BANGALORE (CCH 75) O.S. No.25680/ 2023

BETWEEN :
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh
Aged about 24 years
D/o Mr. Anil Kumar Singh
...PLAINTIFF
AND :
1. MR. SHRIKANT BABURAO MANE
S/o Baburao Laxman Mane, Aged about 32 years, No.P 16, Januroom Bloo Block, P Srinivasapura Near Provision Store, Kogilu Layout, Yelahanka Bangalore-560064.
...DEFENDANT

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 4,66,162 (Rupees Four Lakhs Sixty Six Thousand One Hundred Sixty Two Only)** apart from future interest of 8.50%, in **O.S. No. 25680/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 75**, Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **08th** day of **December, 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **06th** day of **November, 2023.**

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
BENGALURU- 560 001.

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU- 560 005.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AMBIKA Ravikumar W/o K.Ravikumar, R/a No.14/5, Monish Nilaya, 4th Cross, 5th Main Rd Ganesha Block R T Nagar Post, B'luru-32 have changed my name to Ambika Gajanur Siddaramanna vide affidavit dt:8.11.23 sworn before Notary S.Vijayakumar, B'lore

I, ESTHER W/o Krishna, R/a No.21, Sri Rama Nivas, 3rd Main, 3rd C Cross, Kalappa Layout, Basavanagar, Bangalore-560037 have changed my name to Lakshmi vide affidavit dt: 09.11.2023 sworn before Notary K.Venkateshan, B'lore

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF 74TH ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BANGALORE (CCH 75) O.S. No. 25086/2023

BETWEEN :
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh, Aged about 24 years, **D/o Mr. Anil Kumar Singh ...PLAINTIFF**
AND :
1. MR. MD MANZAR ALAM
S/o Alam Rahi, Aged about 34 years, No. 47, 1st Floor, Vinayaka Layout, Hulimangala Post, Bangalore- 560106.
...DEFENDANT

Summons to Defendant

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 5,83,091.82 (Rupees Five Lakhs Eighty Three Thousand Ninety One and paisa Eighty Two Only)** apart from future interest of **9.85%** p.a., in **O.S. No. 25086/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 75**, Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **08th** of **December, 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **06th** day of **November, 2023.**

By the order of Court,
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
Bengaluru- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No. 11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
Bengaluru- 560 005.

IN THE COURT OF 57th ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSION JUDGE, MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH 58) O.S. No. 25824/2023
Hg.02-01-2024

BETWEEN :
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001,
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh, Aged about 24 years, D/o. Mr. Anil Kumar Singh **...PLAINTIFF**
AND:
1. Ms. Eragama Rajeswari.
Aged about 33 years, D/o Venkata Ramana Eragana No. 47, ARR Regals 1t Cross Manjunatha Layout, Near Dental College, Munekolala, Main Road Marathahalli, Bangalore- 560042
...DEFENDANT

Summons to Defendant

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 5,72,913.51 (Rupees Five Lakhs Seventy Two thousand Nine Hundred Thirteen and paisa Fifty one only)** apart from future interest of 24%, in **O.S. No. 25824/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH 58**, Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **02nd** day of **January 2024,** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Exparte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the **06th** day of **November, 2024.**

By the order of court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil, Court
Mayohall,
Bengaluru- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 99, Old No. 11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
Bengaluru- 560 005

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANJANA Nagendra, W/o Manjunath Chandrakanth Jamman Katti, R/a No.702, KEB Road, New Extension, Kadugodi, Plantation, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560067 have changed my name to Anjana Manjunath Jamman Katti, vide affidavit dt: 09.11.2023 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, B'lore

I, RANJITH Shankar, R/a GF-7, B Block, Ground Floor, Dukes Mansion Apartments, 100 Spencer Frazer Town, Bangalore - 560005 have changed my name to Ranjith Shankar Hanbal Ravishankar vide affidavit dt: 09.11.2023 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N, B'lore

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCCH-16)
P & Sc No. 619/2023

BETWEEN : 1. Mr. Joseph Solomon, S/o Late S. Santhanam, Aged about 53 years, R/o No.001, Shivani Residency, Opp. Infant Jesus Church, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047.
2. Mrs. Joyce James, W/o James K.K, Aged about 64 years R/o No. 349, 3rd Floor, 4th Square, Care Scan Centre, Austin Town, Bengaluru-560047,
3. Mrs. Rose Alushia W/o C. Pathi Nathan, Aged about 62 years, R/o. 13, Suja Building, 4th Cross, Furniture Lane, M.G. Garden, Neelasandra, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047.
4. Mrs. Chitra Hilda, W/o Surendrakumar, Aged about 54 years, R/o No. 20, 4th Cross, Hanumantappa Garden, Bazar Street, Neelasandra, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047.
5. Mrs. Maria Asuntha S, W/o Anthony Sagayraj, Aged about 48 years, R/o No.249, 1st Cross, Viveknagar further extension, Viveknagar, Bengaluru-560047.
6. Mrs. Maria Nirmala D/o Santhanam, Aged about 38 years R/o Mary Nivas, No.617, 7th Main, 8th Cross, Indiranagar, HAL III Stage, New Thippasandra, Bengaluru-560075.
...Petitioners
AND : Nil ...Respondent

NOTICE / SUMMONS TO THE RESPONDENT

To, NIL

Whereas the above named petitioners have made petition under section 372 of Indian Succession Act for the grant of succession certificate in favour of the petitioner No.1 in respect of item Nos. 1 & 2 of schedule properties standing in the name of deceased Salome Sheela, who was unmarried. The petitioner No.1 is brother arid the petitioner Nos.2 to 6 are sisters son of deceased Salome Sheela, who died on 15-12- 2019.

Interested parties are hereby called to appear in this Court in person or by pleader duly instructed **on 08.12.2023 at 11.00 am** to inform to show cause against the petitioners failing wherein, the appearance will be heard and declared as per Exparte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

Item No. 1 : EPF / Pension / EDLI, Vide Universal Account Number (UAN) 100329065774 and PF Account No. 15943/53 pertaining to Salome Sheela.

Item No. 2 : All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.285/F, situated at Vrishabhavathi Nagar Further Extension Layout (F.E. of BSK VI Stage), 4th Block, measuring East to West: 9 meters and North to South: 6 meters and bounded on:

East by : Site No.284/F, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site No.284/E, **South by :** Site No.284/G.

Given under my hand & seal of the court, this 07.11.2023.

By Order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore.

Advocate tor Petitioner :
Ganapathi S Shastri, Advocate No.281, 20th Main, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru.

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BANGALORE (CCH 22) O.S. No. 25695/2023

BETWEEN :
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M. G. Road, Bangalore- 560001.
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh, Aged about 24 years, D/o Mr. Anil Kumar Singh **...PLAINTIFF**
AND :
1. Mr. Bharath D.
S/o Dhananjaya Anjanppa, Aged about 33 years, No. 41/1, 9th Cross, Sanjeevini Nagar, Moodalapalya, Carmel School, Near Bangalore-560072 **...DEFENDANT**

Summons to Defendant

Whereas the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 14,21,711.17/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Twenty One Thousand Seven Hundred Eleven and Paisa Seventeen Only)** apart from future interest of 8.50% p.a. in **O.S. No. 25695/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH-22,** Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **19th** day of **December, 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence Ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court this the **03rd** day of **November, 2023.**

By the order of Court,
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
Bengaluru- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No. 11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
Bengaluru- 560 005.

SITUATION VACANT

GENERAL

Society for Electronic Transactions and Security (SETS)
(Under O/o the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India)
Taramani,Chennai-600 113.

Advertisement No.: SETS/Chn/Rec/2023-24/17&18 Dated: 09.11.2023.

Society For Electronic Transactions and Security (SETS) invites On-line applications from enthusiastic researchers in the area of Cybersecurity focusing on the key verticals, namely, Cryptology and Computing, Hardware Security, Quantum Security and Network Security to fill up the **4 positions of Senior Scientists on Direct Recruitment Mode.**

For details please visit **www.setsindia.in/careers**

Last Date for receiving application is **15.12.2023.**

CAAO, SETS

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BANGALORE (CCH- 22) O.S. No. 25683/2023

BETWEEN :
M/S ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M. G. Road, Bangalore- 560001,
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Ms. Mansi Singh, Aged about 24 years, D/o Mr. Anil Kumar Singh **...PLAINTIFF**
AND :
1. Mr. G. Gopi Naidu
No. 295/271, Ground Floor, Bhuvaneshwari Road, Off Main Road Whitefield, Bangalore- 560066.
...DEFENDANT

Summons to Defendant

Whereas the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 4,53,047.62/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Forty Seven and paisa Sixty Two Only)** apart from future interest of 24% p.a. in **O.S. No. 25683/2023** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH-22,** Before Addl. City Civil Court, Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **19th** day of **December, 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence Ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court this the **03rd** day of **November, 2023.**

By the order of Court,
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall,
Bengaluru- 560 001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No. 11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
Bengaluru- 560 005.

TENDERS

CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
Materials Management Division

e-Auctions are invited for the disposal of Plants and Machineries, & Scrap in "as is where is" condition. e-Auction will be conducted by M/s. MSTC Ltd. Tenders is invited through GeM for the purchase of 62 Items of various sizes of G.I.Pipes and fittings.

For further details/corrigendum, if any, visit
www.mstcecommerce.com
www.gem.gov.in
www.chennaiport.gov.in

Chief Mechanical Engineer

Oushadhi
The Pharmaceutical Corporation (I.M.) Kerala Ltd.
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking)
Kuttanellur, Thrissur-14, Kerala
Ph: 0487- 2459841, 2459807.
E-mail : purchase@oushadhi.org

P/133/2023-24 Dt: 10.11.23

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Re-E-Tenders are invited for the supply of I) Raw Materials and II) Containers & Packing Materials for the period 1st December 2023 to 31st March 2024. **Last date of submission of all Tenders: 18.11.23** E-Tenders can be down loaded from the website **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in** For more details, please visit our website **www.oushadhi.org** or contact our Purchase Division at Kuttanellur.

(Sd/-)
Thrissur Managing Director

Encore Asset Reconstruction Company Private Limited (Encore ARC)

acting in its capacity as the Trustee of EARC - Bank - 024 -Trust
Encore ARC Corporate Office Address: 5th Floor, Plot No. 137, Sector 44, Gurugram 122002, Haryana

Public Notice for e-Auction

e-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ('SARFAESI Act") read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ("Rules").

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/charged to City Union Bank Ltd. to secure dues in the loan account since assigned to Encore ARC (Secured Creditor) acting in its capacity as the Trustee of EARC-Bank-024-TRUST, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of City Union Bank Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 20.12.2023 at 11:00 a.m., for recovery of outstanding dues of Rs.3,22,91,169 (Rupees Three Crores Twenty Two Lakhs Ninety One Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Nine Only) as on 31.10.2023 together with further interest from 01.11.2023 at contractual rate till recovery of outstanding amount and other costs, charges etc. due to the Encore ARC (Secured creditor), from Borrowers & Guarantors viz. M/s. Srivari Tools Components & Communications, Mr.M.Srinivas, Mrs.K.N.Sujatha , Mr.Likith Srinivas, Mr.Chandan Srinivas and Minor Monisha (Represented by Father & Natural Guardian M. Srinivas)

Note :-

Please note that, besides above accounts/facilities, the City Union Bank Ltd. has extended the following one more facility which has also been assigned to Encore ARC. The account has been declared as NPA. Hence the Encore ARC reserves its right to adjust/set off the surplus of sale proceeds, if any to the outstanding dues under the accounts as detailed below together with further interest w.e.f. 01.11.2023, out of the sale proceeds of mortgaged properties by exercising right of general lien/set off.

S. No.	Borrower / Co-obligant	Account No.	Facility	Outstanding as on 31-10-2023
1	**M/s. Srivari Tools Components & Communications, Mr M. Srinivas & Mrs K.N. Sujatha**	501812080053391	CUB-OSL Term EMI	33,27,931/-

The description of the mortgaged immovable properties, the details of Reserve Price for the Secured Assets, the Earnest Money Deposit & Minimum Increment Amount in Bidding Process are as under:

Property owned by M. Srinivas, Sujatha K N, Likith Srinivas, Chandan Srinivas, & Monisha

All that piece and parcel of residential and commercially converted property bearing New BBMP Khatha No.193/55/5 carved out in Sy. No.55/5 (Old Sy. No.55), measuring East to West on Northern side 406 feet, on Southern side 466 feet and North to South on Eastern side 144.6 feet, on Western side 140.9 feet, total extent 61,912 square feet plan approved by BBMP, situated at Pattanagere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on

East by: Road, West by: Land bearing Sy.No.9
North by: Land bearing Sy. No.55/4, South by: Land bearing Sy. No.55

All that piece and parcel of the residential apartments Nos.G-3, G-4, G-5, G-6, G-7 on Ground floor, and S-4 and S-5 on Second floor and T-1 on Third floor, in the building known as "SHIVAGANGA DWARAKAMAI" in Sai Block – 4 of together with proportionate undivided share, right, title, interest and ownership in above Schedule Property along with car parking area and measurement as follows :-

S. No	Apt. No.	Floor	Block	Super Built-up Area	U.D.S.	Reserve Price (In Rs)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rs)
1.	G-3	Ground	Sai Block – 4	1305 Sq.ft.	525 Sq.ft.	41,40,000/-	4,14,000/-
2.	G-4	Ground	Sai Block – 4	1175 Sq.ft.	473 Sq.ft.	81,90,000/-	8,19,000/-
3.	G-5	Ground	Sai Block - 4	1340 Sq.ft.	530 Sq.ft.		
4.	G-6	Ground	Sai Block – 4	1100 Sq.ft.	442 Sq.ft.	34,20,000/-	3,42,000/-
5.	G-7	Ground	Sai Block – 4	1200 Sq.ft.	483 Sq.ft	37,80,000/-	3,78,000/-
6.	S-4	Second	Sai Block – 4	1175 Sq.ft.	473 Sq.ft.	36,90,000/-	3,69,000/-
7.	S-5	Second	Sai Block – 4	1340 Sq.ft.	530 Sq.ft.	41,40,000/-	4,14,000/-
8.	T-1	Third	Sai Block – 4	1095 Sq.ft.	440 Sq.ft.	34,20,000/-	3,42,000/-

Minimum Increment Amount in Bidding Process for each Item	**Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only)**
Date of Inspection of Secured Assets	**23/11/2023 between 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**
Last Date of Submission of online Bid	**Before 3.00 PM on 19/12/2023**
Date & time of e-Auction	**20/12/2023 at 11.00 AM to 1:00 PM with unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each as per Terms & Conditions mentioned below. Auction Website: https://bankeauctions.com**

In case the e-Auction date is declared public holiday then the date will be automatically extended to the very next working day.

Since Encore ARC is acting in its capacity as Trustee of EARC-Bank – 024 -Trust only, any reference of its name in this Public Notice should be construed accordingly.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Encore ARC's website i.e. https://www.encorearc.com and https://bankeauctions.com

Interested bidders may contact Authorised officer of Encore ARC Mr.B. M.Nagaraju Mobile No.89399 56230 , Mr. K.Nagendran on mobile no. No. 91762 91717 and Mr. Sabari Sundar on mobile no. 7904918124 for any further information / query.

B M Nagaraju
Authorised Officer
Encore Asset Reconstruction Company Private Limited

Date: 09.11.2023
Place: Chennai

M BG-BGE

Chip off the block

As incentives for semiconductors sputter, course corrections are due

As funds for production-linked incentives (PLI) for manufacturing semiconductors lie under-utilised by upwards of 80%, the Union government must be far clearer on what it has achieved – and aims to accomplish – by continuing to spend crores of rupees on bringing more semiconductor fabrication capabilities to India. While the PLI scheme for IT hardware has a ₹17,000 crore outlay, the one for semiconductors and displays has ₹38,601 crore earmarked. On the employment and substantive value addition fronts, existing schemes in and of themselves show little promise: while chips are important for most hardware and appliances, making them employs advanced and automated systems, and manufacturing facilities employ few people for the value generated in sales. Not all big-ticket spending in the national interest translates into domestic employment, as import-heavy defence spending shows. But the central wager with these schemes, at much cost to the exchequer, lies in attracting an "ecosystem" that will increase the value addition of India's electronics manufacturing sector. This is far from a guaranteed outcome, even if PLI benefits are availed optimally. The wager also relies on global manufacturing giants giving other benefits of a globally distributed supply chain a go-by, including cheap and accessible international transport facilities for chips.

The constellation of PLI schemes remains a wager nonetheless. And it must be bolstered by other efforts to strengthen India's hand – encouraging semiconductor design talent to develop domestically. Some efforts here, such as the design-linked incentive scheme, show promise. But the bulk of the capital remains focused on the assembly and subsidising of large manufacturing plants, with much of the raw and even intermediate material still being imported. And with the limited scope of what the PLI funds are incentivising, multinational chipmakers are staying away from making substantive commitments, despite incentives. Private capital is also in a state of flux, with advancements in chips and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence leaving policymakers guessing on how best to allocate resources to boost their technological position for the coming decade. These outlays must, therefore, be pegged to a tangible outcome: is this a matter of safeguarding cyber sovereignty to protect India from another pandemic-style supply chain shock, encouraging the domestic electronics industry to make electronics cheaper for Indian consumers, or asserting India as a global electronics manufacturing centre? Clarity on desired outcomes would make failures easier to spot. It would also make it possible to course correct before massive PLI spending has already taken place with little to show for the outflow.

Women in red

A menstrual hygiene policy should provide a range of services

Only in an 'unseeing' world would the judiciary need to set the government a deadline to do the obvious. The Supreme Court of India gave the Centre four weeks to finalise an optimum menstrual hygiene policy with focus on the distribution of sanitary napkins. The Chief Justice of India, D.Y. Chandrachud, further directed the government to set down a national model for the number of girls toilets per female population across government-aided and residential schools in the country. Menstruation is the reality for women of a particular age demographic, naturally involving a substantial percentage of half the population in the country. It is only now, over three quarters of a century after Independence, that India has come closest to even drawing up a menstrual hygiene policy. While advancements over the years, and expanding urbanisation, have brought menstrual hygiene products within reach of a larger group of young women, affordability is still an issue; access hurdles stand in the way of a wide swathe of women in semi-urban and rural areas. The evidence for this is apodictic: as per the latest National Family Health Survey-5 (NFHS), 73% of rural women and 90% of urban women use a hygienic method of menstrual protection. There was a significant improvement in the percentage of women aged 15-24 who use a hygienic method of protection during their menstrual cycle, this rose from 58% in NFHS-4 to 78% in NFHS-5, primarily sanitary napkins, cloth and locally prepared napkins. The survey also revealed the close link between education and preference for hygiene – women who have received 12 or more years of schooling are more than twice as likely to use a hygienic method compared to those with no schooling. An irrefutable link has been established between menstruation and dropping out of school, because of stigma, and patchy or no access to sanitation (in terms of access to products, toilets and water). That little has been done to address this all these years reeks of callousness.

The Centre told the Court that a draft policy had been circulated for comments from various stakeholders and that it would be ready in four weeks. A policy is only half a revolution; to complete the circle, it is crucial the government ensures access to affordable menstrual hygiene products for all menstruating girls, but also clean toilets and water wherever the women may need them. Besides, the policy should also cater to the entire lifecycle of menstruation, providing for the entire range of health and social sequelae that result from it. The government must see, cognise, and commit to serve India's women.

Acknowledge India's economic successes too

V. Anantha Nageswaran
is Chief Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Rajiv Mishra
is Senior Adviser in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Megha Arora
is Indian Economic Service Officer in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India

Ram Singh
is Director, Delhi School of Economics

The Indian economy has grown at an impressive rate in the post-COVID-19 years. In FY2023, it grew year-over-year (YoY) at 7.2%, the fastest among major economies. In FY2024, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) projects India's YoY growth at 6.3%, again the fastest among major economies. For those yet to absorb its full import (see https://tinyurl.com/wzxhde5a, for example), the tagline, 'fastest-growing major economy,' calls for some elaboration.

The word 'major' in the tagline makes it clear that India's relatively high economic growth in the global context is not on account of its small size. India is currently the fifth largest economy in the world in U.S. dollar terms and is projected by the IMF to become the third largest by 2027. An economy as large as this and growing rapidly cannot be characterised by weak domestic demand, particularly when external demand growth has been uneven and uncertain.

COVID-19 and growth rates

Some commentators contest the tagline, 'fastest'. There is a view that post-COVID-19, YoY growth rates need to be replaced by compound annual growth rate estimated on the pre-COVID-19 year of 2019-20. This view seeks to measure annualised progress as if there was no pandemic. However, the fact is that there was a pandemic, and YoY growth rates measure progress despite the pandemic. In this perspective, the YoY growth rate of 7.2% in FY23 comprises two components: one that measures annualised progress over the pre-pandemic year and the other that measures annual recovery of the output lost to the pandemic. The latter in no way is less significant than the former.

Present-day economic dividends are also rooted in the steps taken to mitigate the economic challenges of the pre-COVID-19 period. In the first decade of this century, the Indian economy grew rapidly, propelled by strong growth in world trade and a domestic credit boom.

In the aftermath of the global financial crisis of 2007-08, growth in world trade fell, dampening the trade stimulus for economies worldwide, including the Indian economy. The domestic credit bubble also burst as high leverage in the corporate sector led to frequent defaults in repayments and a consequent surge in non-performing assets of public sector banks. The twin stresses on the balance sheets combined with elevated prices in real estate led to a lower investment rate in the Indian economy.

Public capex also could not add much to the investment rate as the new government that came to power in 2014 had no choice but to opt for fiscal discipline to address the legacy challenges of large fiscal deficits, high inflation, and a widened current account deficit. With trade and domestic investment weakening, the Indian economy grew at a rate less than its potential in the second decade, except for a couple of years when crude oil prices dropped, improved the trade balance, and supported higher growth.

Government's measures since 2014

The new government implemented a series of measures to lift the economy onto a higher growth path in the medium term. A calibrated liberalisation of the economy has resulted in an upward-level shift of net foreign direct investment inflows. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) introduced in 2015 has successfully addressed delinquency and lowered the non-performing assets in the banking sector, setting the stage for private corporate investment to take off. The demonetisation drive of 2016 has reduced black money by improving tax compliance.

Besides, the Goods and Services Taxes (GST) rolled out in 2017 has mobilised higher revenues and unified fragmented markets to build economic synergies. The reduction in the corporate tax rate in 2019 to one of the lowest in the world has increased corporate reserves, which are being leveraged to finance higher investments. These reforms have led to a strong churning of the economy, shutting out enterprises that deviated from market principles.

In FY22, the government embarked on a large Capex programme and provided resource support to State governments to increase their Capex budget. From 1.6% of GDP in FY19, the Capex of the central government has risen to 2.7% in FY23 and is budgeted to increase further to 3.3% in FY24 – all this while containing the fiscal deficit to its budgeted ratio to GDP. The idea behind the upscaling of the Capex budget was to not only plug gaps in physical infrastructure but also to "crowd-in" private corporate investment, which was investment-ready, having repaired its balance sheet and progressed to an optimal level of capacity utilisation. Data from Axis Bank, for example, shows private corporate investment rose by 22.4% in FY23, with 15 out of 19 sectors witnessing an expansion in private capital investment.

Along with accelerating economic growth, the government has been focusing on inclusive growth, as reflected in its commitment to Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas. It has taken various steps to lift people above the poverty line. Relentless government support towards livelihood enhancement, skill development, women's empowerment, and infrastructure development has played a vital role in reducing the incidence of poverty in India.

Poverty alleviation, rural welfare

A report by NITI Aayog, that was released recently, showcases a remarkable decline in the prevalence of multidimensional poverty in India; 13.5 crore Indians are estimated to have escaped multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 and 2019-21, with rural areas largely driving the decline in the headcount ratio of the Multidimensional Poverty Index. Further, there has been tangible progress in rural living standards, aided by a policy focus on basic amenities. The National Family Health Survey for 2019-21 provides ample evidence of a significant improvement in an array of indicators concerning the quality of rural lives, including access to electricity, improved drinking water sources, and coverage under health insurance schemes. Various health-related indicators, such as institutional births, immunisation and health insurance coverage, have also seen an uptrend.

The government's support for agriculture has led to fruits, vegetables, the 'dairy and livestock products combined', and fishery growing at unprecedented growth rates. Consequently, the share of fruits and vegetables in the food basket has increased to 19.4% in 2021. The percentage of livestock products has come to account for about 38% of the total value of agri-food. The country's food basket is more nutritious today than ever.

As a country with a large population and a per capita GDP of nearly $2,400, India is aware of the long road ahead to achieve high-income status and a high quality of life for a majority of its citizens. It is a vindication of the success of India's development record in a democratic polity that the steadily rising aspirations of citizens are being matched by their belief that those aspirations will be realised in their lifetime. Now, if experts realise that it is okay to acknowledge successes as it is to draw attention to shortcomings, the quality of public discourse will catch up with India's economic progress.

The views expressed are personal

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Justice, anger and the Nithari acquittals

Stuti Rai
is a Litigation Associate at Project 39A, National Law University Delhi

It is true that the bones of 19 children and women were found in Nithari, Noida, in 2006. It is also true that it was decided well before the trials in any of those cases that the two men, Surendra Koli and Moninder Singh Pandher, were guilty of these crimes, with the imagery of cannibalism etched in our collective memories. However, the terms of justice seem to be severely contested in light of the acquittals for Koli and Pandher. On the one hand is the scale of the loss to families of the victims and on the other is our collective commitment to the rule of law and presumption of innocence. It is not easy to stay committed to these principles in the face of such human tragedy. Does it matter whether there was reliable evidence to convict Koli and Pandher? Or, should we demand a conviction at all costs despite what we might make of the evidence?

The legal journey

The saga began in December 2006 when human bones were found in the nala outside kothi number D-5 in Nithari, where Koli resided with his employer Pandher. This led to a lurid tale of rape, murder, and cannibalism that Koli confessed to to a Magistrate after spending almost 60 days in the custody of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). His pleas in the confession that he had been tortured and tutored by the police were ignored by the Magistrate. The CBI registered 16 cases for 16 murders.

In the first case that was tried, the Sessions Court relied on the confession and the discovery of human remains outside D-5 to convict and sentence Koli to death in February 2009. The Allahabad High Court and the Supreme Court of India, also relying on Koli's confession, confirmed this death sentence. The case progressed to the level of the President of India rejecting Koli's mercy petition, only for the High Court to find that it would be constitutionally untenable to execute him. Koli remains in Dasna district prison, where he is serving a life sentence for this murder.

The remaining 12 cases also had Koli's confession as the mainstay of the prosecution's case. Yet, the Allahabad High Court has now acquitted Koli, despite the very same evidence having been used right up to the Supreme Court in the first case.

What changed suddenly? The High Court has highlighted that Koli's lawyers were able to get investigators to admit to legally significant flaws in these 12 cases that were not available in the first case, where Koli, an illiterate and poor man, had been reliant on a different lawyer. On the basis of these admissions, the High Court concluded that the investigation was deeply flawed, and that both the police and the CBI had failed to investigate a neighbour to D-5 – a surgeon who had been interrogated earlier for organ trafficking.

Unlike courts before it, the High Court gave due consideration to the report of a high-level committee set up by the central government to look into the Nithari murders that had recommended an inquiry into organ trafficking, given the precision with which the bodies were dismembered and the absence of torsos among the bones found. The court also noted that evidence of 'substantially better quality' had been put forth in these cases to establish that the confession had been procured through torture and tutoring. This is not Koli's first acquittal; the trial court has also acquitted him of the remaining three murders.

The public response

For many readers of this daily, all of this might seem like unnecessary legal wrangling designed to obfuscate the truth. The perceived failure of the legal system to confirm public belief about Koli's guilt seems to have unleashed immense anger and frustration. There is no willingness to pause and question the conduct of the investigation agencies in this case. Irrespective of what we might have been led to believe through media hyperbole, it is in our own collective interest to say that criminal convictions must meet a certain quality of evidence, and courts should not uncritically accept prosecution narratives. Media trials, based on evidence leaked by investigators, often sentence the accused even before their trial in a court of law begins.

When the police are not shy about manipulating evidence, and public pressure is relentless, it comes as little surprise when innocent (and generally poor) persons are paraded as the criminal concerned. Whether our appellate courts catch these wrongful convictions becomes a roll of dice, dependent on the judge's identity and their tolerance for public pressure. In stark contrast to its approach in Koli's case, the Supreme Court has recently acquitted 13 people who had been sentenced to death. The Court's dissatisfaction with police investigations has become a refrain in such cases.

The anger with and frustration over the lack of accountability for the tragedy that unfolded in Nithari are certainly legitimate. However, the pursuit of that accountability should not translate into a demand for convictions at all costs. It risks further delegitimisation of an already broken criminal justice system. It also does injustice to us all by compromising the rule of law – our only protection against the might of the state, which can choose and punish people at its whim.

The views expressed are personal

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Governors in the spotlight

When the Governor of a State delays taking action on Bills passed by an elected government, for reasons best known to the Governor, it undermines the will of the people. It is regrettable that the Governors in States where the Opposition is in power are engaging in deliberate inaction to advance their own interests or those of the Central government. With the Kerala government now seeking the intervention of the Supreme Court of India (Page 1, "Kerala moves SC against Governor again", November 9), it is hoped that the Court will establish a precise definition of what constitutes a "reasonable time" for the Governor to act on Bills. If it is not possible to establish a specific time frame, then, at the very least, it should be mandated that Governors provide an explanation for any delay in taking action on Bills.

Michael Jom,
Thiruvananthapuram

The intemperate acts of Governors in sitting on Bills passed by the Assemblies and claiming absolute discretion over the matter amount to a trampling on the democratic rights of the people. Successive central governments have misused the post of Governors for partisan political purposes. It is no exaggeration that under the government in power at the central level, acts by the office of the Governor have resulted in State government-Governor relations touching an all-time low. Going by actions in States that are not ruled by the Bharatiya Janata Party, it makes one believe that Governors are under remote control from Delhi.

It is a fact that no clear-cut time frame is laid down in the Constitution for Governors to clear Bills. But then, the founding fathers of our Republic would never have expected some Governors to turn into political pawns, absolutely devoid of constitutional decency. Governors have obviously outlived their utility and are doing incalculable damage to our federal structure.

Manohar Alembath,
Kannur, Kerala

Chief Minister's comment

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's 'derogatory' comment made in connection with population control has justifiably invited strident criticism. Given the fact that sexist and crude references to women have now become a seamless part of daily discourse in the country, parties across the political spectrum must restrain their partymen from using gender stereotypical language.

M. Jeyaram,
Sholavandan, Tamil Nadu

It is time we stop looking at and talking about women as objects. A woman must be treated with dignity.

Sujeet Mehrotra,
Deoria, Uttar Pradesh

Misinterpretations

I am rather disillusioned to note that *Sanatana Dharma*, replete with lofty ideals and high principles, is a topic that is now in court just because a political figure has been airing his odd views on the subject. Those who have just an acquaintance with the subject should not make strange comments, giving rise to unnecessary misrepresentations.

Mani Nataraajan,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Should Indians work longer hours?

PARLEY

Arjun Nagarajan
is Chief Economist, Sundaram Asset Management Company Limited

Anamitra Roy Chowdhury
is Assistant Professor, Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, JNU, New Delhi

Infosys founder Narayana Murthy recently said that young Indians should work 70 hours a week in order to compete with countries like China. Should Indians work more? Arjun Nagarajan and Anamitra Roy Chowdhury discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Sonikka Loganathan**. Edited excerpts:

Should Indians work more hours?

Arjun Nagarajan: I want to de-emphasise the 70-hour number. Narayana Murthy said it in the context of India being at an inflection point with the largest population and a large demographic dividend. If we miss these decades, it is difficult to move up the value chain. India cannot compare with post-war Germany and Japan (as Mr. Murthy said), but the message is about taking ownership. In the 1990s to late 2020s, Indians worked 6-7 hours per day. Germany, during its heyday (industrial revolution), worked 40% to 50% more, and South Korea in the 1980s worked 30% to 33% more. Working longer is required, but these are broad generalisations and differ across sectors.

Anamitra Roy Chowdhury: The International Labour Organization set the working hours at eight hours a day and 48 hours a week. India ratified this. Many suggest increasing hours. But comparing it to the industrial revolution is like going back 200 years. Post-World War II Germany, facing labour shortages, brought in immigrants to rebuild the nation, which made longer hours necessary. In India, with our labour surplus, longer hours could impact unemployment. Germany now works 34 hours a week, Japan 37. But these are developed nations. Looking at our neighbours: Pakistan works 47 hours, Bangladesh 47, Bhutan 51, Sri Lanka 36, Nepal 40, while India averages 48. We must consider our labour market contextually and not just strive to exceed others, ignoring regional working hours conditions. Though not everyone in the industry may not seriously consider a 70-hour work week, its increasing prevalence in discussions is concerning. It is not in line with either developing or developed nations.

How realistic is working 70 hours a week?

ARC: Working 14 hours a day for five days, or 11.5 for six days, doesn't account for travel, which may add another two hours. The latest Periodic Labour Force Survey data indicate a significant work hours gap between genders. This is wider in rural areas, probably due to women's additional unpaid care work. Overall, in urban and rural areas, 5.5 hours daily versus men's 41 minutes. Increasing work hours will inherently bias the market against women. India's female labour force participation is already one of the lowest in South Asia. Moreover, research indicates diminishing returns for extended work hours.

Workers stitch cricket balls at the factory of the world's largest cricket gear manufacturer, Sanspareils Greenlands, in Meerut. REUTERS

AN: I agree that workers shouldn't be pushed beyond legal work hours. Research underscores the importance of a work-life balance, mental health, and physical exercise. Moreover, work hour averages vary by industry. For example, in the U.S., which is service-dominated, leisure and hospitality average around 25 hours weekly, whereas manufacturing is about 45 hours. In South Korea, the disparity is greater; transport and food services may reach 75 hours, while education is around 40. This shows that development stages and industry sectors – service or manufacturing – impact these averages. China, during its 1990 to 2012 manufacturing- and export-focused phase, saw increased work hours with negative outcomes. So, I'm not advocating that. I'm just saying it's crucial to consider a country's economic drivers and industry when evaluating work hours.

While Germans and the Japanese worked longer hours after World War II, in the following years, their productivity increased due to better technology and their working hours dropped sharply. But for the past 50 years, India's productivity has been snail-paced. Will working longer hours compensate for this?

AN: In discussing India's aim for a $5 trillion economy, the overlooked factor is often the exchange rate. In 2019, the output per worker

> There are only so many hours that can be extended and wages that can be suppressed before negative impacts occur.
> **ANAMITRA ROY CHOWDHURY**

was $74 for the U.S., $69 for Germany, and $8.7 for India. Converting these figures to local currencies for 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2019, you see different growth rates. From 1990 to 2019, the U.S. saw a 63% increase in productivity, Germany 59%, and India nearly nine times.

ARC: Productivity data are better measured per hour, and in purchasing power parity terms, which reflects local prices. Different countries work different hours, so productivity should be assessed per hour, not per worker. In 2017, productivity per hour was $8 for India and $69.8 for Germany. A German worker, working about 5.72 hours a day, is 8.7 times more productive than an Indian worker. To match this, an Indian worker would need to work 52 hours a day, which is impossible. Chinese workers were 1.44 times more productive than Indians. They work 46 hours a week; if we adjust for productivity. To match this, Indians should work for 66.24 hours. That is where, I think, the 70-hour mark comes from. Competing with China on hours brings us to unit labour cost, the labour cost to produce one unit of output. To calculate it, multiply the wage by the labour required per unit of output. This is the inverse of labour productivity, which measures output per unit of labour. If one country's labour productivity is double another's but the wages are the same, the more productive country has half the unit labour cost. To compete, the other country must either halve the wages or double the work hours to offset lower productivity. Therefore, asking for 70 hours of work without a wage increase effectively reduces wages, which is not viable.

AN: Sorry, I meant per hour too, which explains why our data are the same.

The India Innovation Index report by NITI Aayog said that the gross expenditure in 2018 on R&D as a percentage of the GDP was 0.67%, one of the lowest in the world. How big a role does investment in capital and R&D play in increasing worker productivity?

AN: When comparing productivity in India with developed countries, we overlook the fact that those countries have higher automation and wages due to smaller working populations. India, being capital-starved, has a savings-investment gap mirroring the current account deficit. The priority is to optimise infrastructure and industry operations. Introducing artificial intelligence and technology could enhance worker efficiency. So, the short answer is that increasing capital investment is key to boosting worker productivity.

ARC: Productivity should be measured by output per hour worked. It increases with higher capital accumulation and better technology, improving capital productivity. Since workers can't invest, the onus is on investors and industrialists to enhance productivity. The ideal growth strategy is to invest in raising productivity per hour, thereby reducing unit labour cost and becoming globally competitive with increased exports. This contrasts with the less desirable method of suppressing wages, which India has tended to follow. There are only so many hours that can be extended and wages that can be suppressed before negative impacts occur. Notably, wages are not just costs; they fuel consumption too.

Is it possible to maintain work-life balance while increasing worker productivity?

ARC: India has a severe job crisis. The current employment structure is worrying, with a modern economy expected to have more wage labour and less self-employment. Yet, self-employed individuals make up 57% of the workforce, of which 18% are 'unpaid helpers'. The organised sector, despite only employing 10% of the workforce, contributes 45% of the output and needs expansion to boost productivity. In a subsistence crisis, work hours may increase under pressure, necessitating strict enforcement of labour laws or external interventions to maintain work-life balance.

AN: Completely agree. Formalisation is the most important and has to happen in an organic fashion. Second, enforcing labour laws is crucial. Over and above that, what really changes the equation is leadership. Apart from the wage part of it – and wages have to be on a par with the amount of work or hours that you put in – an empathetic leadership makes a world of a difference, where the employee feels one with the firm, he loves the work that he does. Then the number of hours become a little secondary because you know you're working towards a different goal, you know that your needs are taken care of, that remuneration is not an issue.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

When reality repeats itself, should the narrative?

The power climate communication gives to journalists can complicate their relationship with readers

Vasudevan Mukunth

In December 2016, Cyclone Vardah made landfall near Chennai as a 'severe cyclonic storm', leaving two friends and me stuck in a house in the city for many days without power and water, as were most of the city's residents. It was at least two weeks before life returned to some kind of normal.

Even when we don't know whether global warming is responsible for intensifying a specific storm, we know its effects are allowing storms to intensify by and large including, like Vardah, those that form over the Bay of Bengal every winter. And once these storms make landfall, many things happen.

One is that in subsequent weeks, there is a surfeit of news reports, features, and commentary about the devastation these storms have wrought: fishers' nets and boats damaged, fish and cattle killed, people's homes and assets blown away, crops inundated, trees destroyed, infectious disease outbreaks, and deepening poverty. The state is accused of apathy, especially when institutional support is reported to be missing.

Such articles have been invaluable to piece together the social and political consequences of cyclones along India's east coast. But for a commissioning editor, the articles' recursive nature conflicts with an unwritten guideline: repeatedly exposing readers to similar narratives could cause them to lose interest. That is, while climate-related disasters happen every year, is there merit in publishing the same kind of post-disaster reports every time or should journalists strive for something new?

Communication is central to the way we negotiate climate change. Some prefer to alarm people with stories of devastated futures; others prefer making people more hopeful.

Journalists are privileged in this milieu because what we choose to communicate, and how, has a large effect. We need to communicate effectively. Climate alarmism overdone could lead to hopelessness and inaction; feeding too much hope could lead to complacency and inaction; and repeatedly publishing the same sort of post-disaster reports could lead to disinterest and inaction. So, what should journalists do?

Two arguments I've heard in favour of repetition are "we're not covering climate crises enough" and "there's always new stuff - look harder". I don't think the first one is true of *The Hindu*, so I'm going to set it aside. The second is true: there is always something new to add to the narrative every year. However, finding and then reporting on it sensitively and sensibly costs a lot of money and time, more so as the difficulty of discovery increases. One result is that we have more of the same (not that that is otherwise a bad thing).

There is yet another argument that illustrates a deeper predicament: "just report what happened". This is discomfiting because climate-related disasters put seasoned science journalists in a position of power and responsibility, which then raises the question of whether we are exercising them right.

That is, will we be missing a trick by "just reporting what happened", only to discover later that we squandered our power by, say, choosing not to cover a particular incident in detail or to cover it differently? Or by trying to do more, will we overstep into activism and undermine our journalistic integrity and the publication's relationship with readers?

Layered on top of (or below?) these are the uncertainties inherent to climate change science itself.

I don't think there is one right answer - except maybe that journalists covering climate-related disasters need to have the room to make mistakes. Until we have a 'theory' to guide the coverage of climate-related disasters, and inform the relationship of such coverage with the operational principles of news-publishing, journalists shouldn't be faulted for getting something wrong on this front.

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PICTURE OF THE WEEK

Walking towards an uncertain future

Afghan refugees arrive on foot to cross the Pakistan-Afghanistan Torkham border, following the Pakistan's government decision to expel people who are -illegally staying in the country. More than 165,000 Afghans have fled Pakistan since Islamabad issued an ultimatum to 1.7 million people a month ago to leave or face arrest and deportation, officials said on November 2. AFP

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 10, 1973

Egypt and Israel to sign package deal to-day

Washington, Nov. 9: The U.S. Government announced to-day Israel and Egypt have accepted a six-point agreement intended to pave the way for negotiations to reach a permanent settlement in the war-torn West Asia. White House officials released the text of a letter from Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim listing the six points and saying representatives of the two countries would meet to-morrow to sign the agreement. The text of the agreement, as given in Dr Kissinger's letter to Dr. Waldheim, included these points: 1. Egypt and Israel agree to observe scrupulously the ceasefire called by the U.N. Secuity Council. 2. Both sides agree that discussions between them will begin immediately to settle the question of the return to the October 22 positions in the framework of agreement on the disengagement and separation of forces under the auspices of the U.N. 3. The town of Suez will receive daily supplies of food, water and medicine. All wounded civilians in the town of Suez will be evacuated.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 10, 1923

Bavarian coup

Munichjzar, Nov. 9: After dictator Von Kahr had spoken at a large nationalist demonstration in Btrgerbraven beer cellars denouncing Marixst principles, the Fascisti leader Von Hitler entered with six-hundred men and announced the Bavarian Government had been overthrown and added the new Government was in the hands of Ludendorff who was Commander-in-Chief while Von Hitler would his political adviser. Further the ex-chief of Munich police, Von Pochnar, had been appointed administrator and General Von Lossow Minister for Defence. Hitlerite troops then surrounded the Cellars of the Oberland organisation with the Reich colours occupied number of places, particularly open spaces.

From Page One

Ethics panel suggests Moitra's disqualification

The panel has left it for the GOI to investigate and establish the money trail. "The 'money trail' of cash transactions between Mahua Moitra and Darshan Hiranandani as a part of '*quid pro quo*' should be investigated by the Government of India in a legal, institutional and time-bound manner," it said. The panel also admonished its own member and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) MP Danish Ali for "twisting/moulding the intent of question put forth by Chairperson".

National security

Assisting the panel in its probe, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) submitted a background note, in which it argued that several documents posted on the Lok Sabha website are not available in the public domain and "leakage of sensitive material" could be exploited by "inimical elements to the detriment of national security". It said there was a danger of foreign agencies accessing such sensitive material specifically because Mr. Hiranandani, with whom Ms. Moitra is accused of sharing her login credentials, had many "foreign relatives".

The MHA also said that an "unauthorised access" can also lead to other "potential hazards" such as "serious cyber attacks", potentially disabling the system entirely and crippling the functioning of the Parliament. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) informed the panel that Ms. Moitra's login was accessed from Dubai 47 times.

In his submission to the panel, advocate Jai Anant Dehadrai, Ms. Moitra's former partner, based on whose evidence Mr. Dubey filed the complaint, said that he has never met Mr. Hiranandani. But he said that he witnessed first-hand, phone conversations between Ms. Moitra and Mr. Hiranandani about exchange of money and gifts for asking questions.

Bill raising quota ceiling to 65% passed in Bihar

The amended Bill will now be sent to the Governor for his assent before it becomes a law.

During the debate on the Bill, BJP legislators asked the government for some clarifications over the 10% EWS reservation. "Though our party supports the raise in reservation, we also want to know if the government has included the 10% EWS reservation in the 35% *khuli gunagun koti* [Open Merit Category] bracket?" asked Arun Shankar Prasad, the BJP's Khajauli MLA.

Responding to them, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Vijay Kumar Choudhary said, "Yes, the 10% EWS reservation quota has been included in the 35% Open Merit Category. The Bihar government has proposed to raise reservation only for BC, EBC, SC, and ST communities."

Mr. Kumar had proposed the amendment to raise reservations on November 7, hours after it was tabled in the State Assembly and on the same day, it was approved by the State Cabinet. The caste survey report released on October 2 said EBCs comprise 36% and BCs 27.1% of the State's 13.1 crore population. Together the two caste groups account for nearly 63% of the population.

"If need be, there could be a raise in this reservation as well and I'll be happy for this," said Mr. Kumar while adding, "My government will implement the raise in quota as soon as possible." "If special status is given by the Centre to Bihar, the State will excel even further," Mr. Kumar repeatedly said during the debate.

When a BJP legislator raised a question over the financial burden the government has to bear to implement the increase in quota, Mr. Kumar said, "The State government has to spend over ₹2.5 lakh crore to implement it but if the BJP legislators push for special status, Bihar will excel and develop even more".

Trinamool backs Mahua, says she is competent to fight battle on her own

Abhishek Banerjee asks why Ethics Committee has not taken action on several pending cases, including that against BJP's Ramesh Bidhuri, who 'used foul language' in the House; party calls resolution to expel the MP an attempt to stifle her voice

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

This is the first time that the Trinamool leadership has extended support to Mahua Moitra in the 'cash for question' issue. ANI

The Trinamool Congress leadership on Thursday threw its weight behind Krishnanagar MP Mahua Moitra, saying she was "competent enough to fight her own battle". The ruling party in West Bengal asked why the Lok Sabha Ethics Committee was not taking up allegations against BJP MPs.

"I think Mahua Moitra is competent enough to fight her battle on her own. They [the agencies] have been calling me and interrogating for the past four years, trying to tag me in different cases. This has become their standard operating procedure," Trinamool Congress general secretary Abhishek Banerjee told mediapersons hours before the Ethics Committee adopted a report recommending the expulsion of Ms. Moitra from the Lok Sabha.

Mr. Banerjee raised questions on why the committee had not taken action in several pending cases, including that against BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri who "used foul language in Parliament". "There are several such cases where a privilege motion against BJP MPs is still pending and there is no hearing. But if somebody wants to question the government or raise concerns over the malpractices by Adani, how can they be expelled as MPs," he asked.

This is the first time since allegations of "cash for query" surfaced against Ms. Moitra that the Trinamool leadership has extended its support to the MP. The party's response on the issue so far had been vague.

Trinamool spokesperson Kunal Ghosh said the resolution to expel Ms. Moitra was an attempt to "stifle her voice". "The BJP cannot defeat us in elections, that is why they are targeting us through the back door. The Ethics Committee should answer why allegations against BJP leaders are pending before the Committee. The Ethics committee has tried to unethically remove Mahua Moitra from Lok Sabha," the spokesperson said.

'Kangaroo court'

Speaking to news agency PTI, Ms. Moitra, said, "Even if they expel me in this Lok Sabha, I will be back in the next Lok Sabha with a bigger mandate." "This is a pre-fixed match by a kangaroo court, which is of no surprise or consequence. But the larger message is that for India, it is death of parliamentary democracy," she said.

"From day one, it was a kangaroo court. There is no evidence, no trail, nothing. They called me for questioning, which was not complete because the Chairperson did not allow others to question me."

Ms. Moitra said there was no cross-examining of the main complainant, the alleged bribe giver. "I was not allowed to cross-examine the main complainant. Not a single piece of evidence of cash or gifts given till today, the issue of login sharing is a non-issue because every MP shares it with 10 people and there are no NIC rules."

Winter Session of Parliament to start on Dec. 4

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Winter Session of Parliament will begin on December 4 and end on December 22, the Centre said on Thursday.

The session will have 15 sittings spread over 19 days, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said in a post on X (formerly Twitter). "Amid *Amrit Kaal* looking forward to discussions on legislative business and other items during the session," he said.

Several important Bills are likely to be taken up for consideration and passage during the Winter Session, including three legislation seeking to replace the Indian Penal Code, the Evidence Act, and the Code of Criminal Procedure, as well as a Bill related to the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners.

India files appeal against death penalty to 8 former Navy personnel in Qatar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The External Affairs Ministry on Thursday said that the Indian Embassy in Qatar had been granted consular access on November 7 to the eight former Indian Navy personnel who are facing death penalty in the West Asian country.

The Ministry said India was considering "further legal steps" in the case.

> On November 7, our Embassy received another consular access to the detainees
>
> **ARINDAM BAGCHI**
> MEA spokesperson

"On November 7, our Embassy received another consular access to the detainees. We are in touch with the family members too, and the External Affairs Minister met them earlier this month in New Delhi," Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said.

Mr. Bagchi assured "all legal and consular assistance" to the eight former officials who were working in Al Dahra company of Qatar. The Court of First Instance of Qatar passed a judgment on October 26 handing out the death penalty to them.

"The judgment is confidential and has only been shared with the legal team. They are now pursuing further legal steps, and an appeal has been filed. We will also remain engaged with the Qatari authorities on this matter," Mr. Bagchi said.

Need to expedite trial in cases against MPs, MLAs, SC tells HCs

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday gave Chief Justices of High Courts the responsibility to form a Special Bench each in their High Courts to maintain a constant vigil over the criminal trials of MPs and MLAs, some of them accused of crimes punishable with death or life imprisonment, and ensure they reach the finish line.

A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud, months ahead of the Lok Sabha election in 2024, spurred the State High Courts into action to prevent criminals from donning the mantle of lawmakers in the country.

"These cases have a direct bearing on our political democracy. Hence, there is a compelling need to make every effort to ensure that these cases are taken up on priority and decided expeditiously," the court observed.

Amicus curiae Vijay Hansaria and advocate Ashwini Upadhyay, the petitioner, said 40% of the MPs and MLAs have criminal antecedents.

Stark differences

The court said it would be difficult to form uniform guidelines for trial courts across the country on how to deal with these cases. The judgment said there were stark differences in the actual number of cases pending between States and even districts within States.

The Supreme Court directed the Chief Justices of High Courts to register *suo motu* cases in their respective jurisdictions titled "In re: Designated courts for MPs and MLAs" to monitor the early disposal of criminal cases pending against MPs and MLAs.

The Special Bench of each High Court may either be headed by the Chief Justice or comprise judges assigned by the Chief Justice. The High Courts should give principal district judges responsibility to allocate the cases to special designated courts for effective disposal of the pending criminal cases.

The designated trial courts should give first priority to cases concerning offences punishable with death or life imprisonment and then for five years' imprisonment and other charges with lesser punishment. The courts should allow no adjournments unless in rare or compelling circumstances.

The Special Bench of a State should monitor the progress of the trials by listing the *suo motu* case at regular intervals and by asking for information from the principal district judges through status reports on the progress of the pending trial proceedings. The Bench can take the assistance of the Advocate-Generals of the States concerned and public prosecutors. The High Courts should host an independent tab in their official websites providing district-wise details of the year of filing of the criminal cases against the legislators and the status of the trial.

The Chief Justices of High Courts should list and hear cases in which there was a stay of the trial passed by the Special Benches and pass appropriate orders, including vacation of the stay orders to ensure commencement and conclusion of the trial.

On the draw

Bihar CM loses cool in Assembly, attacks Manjhi

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Thursday lost his cool again in the Assembly and said it was due to his 'stupidity' that he had made Jitan Ram Manjhi the Chief Minister of the State. Mr. Manjhi became Chief Minister of the State in May 2014 when he was with JD(U) and Mr. Kumar had stepped down from the post on moral grounds after the 2014 Lok Sabha election.

U.S. Secretary of Defence Austin arrives in India for '2+2' ministerial dialogue

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Strategic visit: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh welcomes Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin in New Delhi on Thursday. PTI

U.S. Secretary of Defence Lloyd J. Austin arrived in India on Thursday for the '2+2' ministerial dialogue scheduled to be held on Friday. He was received at the Palam technical area here by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and was given a Guard of Honour.

"Various issues will be discussed but I would not like to prejudge it," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said in response to questions at the weekly press conference on the expected outcomes from the dialogue.

The tensions in West Asia are expected to figure prominently in the discussions.

Mr. Austin and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken will co-chair the Ministerial 2+2 Dialogue with Mr. Singh and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Friday.

It will be followed by a bilateral meeting between Mr. Austin and Mr. Singh, the Defence Ministry said in a statement.

"A number of strategic, defence and technology issues are expected to be discussed during the 2+2 dialogue and the bilateral meeting," it said.

Two major deals

On the defence front, there are two major deals in the pipeline between the two countries – the 31 MQ-9B high altitude long endurance drones and the manufacture of the General Electric F-414 jet engines in India, which has been chosen to power the indigenous light combat aircraft (LCA-Mk2).

The process is under way and is expected to be concluded early next year.

The '2+2' dialogue will enable a high-level review of progress being made in cross-cutting aspects of defence and security cooperation, technology value chain collaborations and people-to-people ties, the External Affairs Ministry said. "The Ministers will take the opportunity to progress the futuristic road map for the India-U.S. partnership as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joseph Biden, in their discussions in June and September."

Two bullet-ridden bodies found in Manipur, say police

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Two days after four Kuki-Zo people, including the mother of an Army jawan posted in Jammu and Kashmir, were abducted by a mob in Manipur's Kangpokpi district, the police on Thursday said they have found the bullet-ridden bodies of a man and a woman at two different locations in Imphal.

A police source said the bodies were "most likely" of the abducted persons, but noted that the "formal identification is yet to be done".

The 65-year-old father of the soldier, who was rescued by the security forces, continues to be in a critical state at the Army Hospital in Guwahati.

Kuki Inpi, an apex body of Kuki tribes, said in a statement that two people were "mercilessly murdered" by Meitei groups. It said that on November 7, five Kuki-Zo people were travelling to L. Phaijang village in Kangpokpi district to perform customary nuptial practices when they were abducted by the mob.

The body of a middle-aged woman with a bullet wound on her head was found in Imphal West district on Wednesday, while the body of a man, presumed to be in his forties, was found in Imphal East district late on Tuesday night, PTI reported.

The bodies have been sent to the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences in Imphal for post-mortem examination.

APPEAL

Master Mohd Asad Imad, son of Imran Siddiqui 12 years admitted in Christian Medical College, Ranipet is suffering from Thalassemia Major. This is a type of life threatening blood disorder. The best option for him would be to undergo allogeneic peripheral blood stem cell transplant (PBSCT). The estimated cost of PBSCT at this hospital is approximately **Rs. 15,00,000**/-.

Please send donation however small and save the boy. Cheque/D.D/M.O favouring **Save Poor Lives** A/c Mohd Asad Imad. **Our Account Details:** S/B Account No. 20000913487. State Bank of India, R.A. Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855. You can donate through Google Pay No. **9884607377**, UPI Id: **savepoorlives@oksbi**. All donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES REGISTERED PUBLIC CHARITABLE TRUST, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Ground Floor, Old No. 76 Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai - 600 028. Contact No. **044 42044165 & 044 35691848,** Mobile: **9884607377,** Email: **savepoorlives@gmail.com**. Our website: **www.savepoorlives.com**

ASSEMBLY POLLS 2023

PM's 5G mantra resulted in M.P.'s growth, says FM

Union Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman said on Thursday that Madhya Pradesh came out of its "*bimaru* (ill)" status only because of the "5G mantra" of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP.

Addressing a press conference in the poll-bound State's Bhopal, Ms. Sitharaman said, "And this governance has five *sutras* (principles), which I am calling 5G." She added: "They are growth, good governance, goodwill, guarantee of Modi *ji*, and *gareeb kalyan* (welfare of the poor). These are the five *sutras* because of which the *bimaru* M.P. has today become *bemisal* (unparalleled) Madhya Pradesh"

The BJP leader noted that Madhya Pradesh has witnessed a 12-fold increase in per capita income under the party's rule. "It has gone up from ₹11,171 in 2002 to ₹1.40 lakh," she said.

Nirmala Sitharaman said M.P. has seen a increase in per capita income under BJP rule.

BJP will end Naxalism in five years, says Shah

Making his pitch for a "double engine" government in poll-bound Chhattisgarh, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Thursday that if the BJP came to power, Naxalism would be eliminated in five years.

Addressing rallies in three different parts of the State, including Jashpur, Mr. Shah alleged that rampant "religious conversion" had been taking place under Congress rule, even as he invoked the late Dilip Singh Judev, scion of the Jashpur royal family , and an "anti-conversion crusader".

Mr. Shah said that for 70 years, the Congress delayed the Ram Temple, stalling it, diverting it, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi was going to dedicate the grand temple in Ayodhya next year.

He also alleged that Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was involved in scams running into thousands of crores of rupees.

> I have come here to appeal to people of Rajasthan to wake up to the clear and present danger and reject these attempts to hijack democracy
>
> **P. CHIDAMBARAM**
> Congress leader

Congress chief targets BJP over caste census

At a rally in Chhattisgarh, Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday accused the BJP of doublespeak on caste census. "[Home Minister Amit] Shah says that we have never opposed it. Narendra Modi says this is not right, you are dividing the backwards and the Scheduled Caste," he said.

He also accused Mr. Modi of using religion for votes.

> My Bharatiya Janata Party government made four crore pucca houses for poor people but I haven't made one for myself
>
> **NARENDRA MODI**
> Prime Minister

Voicing concerns: Social activist Aruna Roy addressing the Jan Manch where the manifesto was released on Wednesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

In Rajasthan, a manifesto from the people and for the people

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

A "people's manifesto" released by civil rights groups ahead of the Rajasthan Assembly election has called upon political parties to give the highest priority to the democratic rights of citizens. The manifesto was released on Wednesday in the presence of representatives from the ruling Congress, the BJP, and other parties.

Activists from the Rajasthan Election Watch and the Suchna Evum Rozgar Adhikar Abhiyan prepared the manifesto in consultation with citizens, social organisations, and experts in different fields. Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan founder-member Nikhil Dey said the manifesto would affirm the people's right to monitor the election and keep a watch on the conduct of candidates.

Awareness yatra

The activists complained that the Election Commission (EC) had not given its nod for a proposed yatra to be undertaken by Rajasthan Election Watch to generate awareness among the voters. People's Union for Civil Liberties president Kavita Srivastava said that though permission had been sought on October 23, there was no response from the poll body so far.

"We are considering the option of approaching the Rajasthan High Court on the issue through a [writ] petition, as this amounts to an infringement of the democratic rights of people," she said.

Social activist and Magsaysay Award winner Aruna Roy said that since people had the "supreme voice" in a democracy, they should exercise their franchise wisely. "With the space for dissent constantly shrinking in the country and restrictions being imposed on the freedom of speech, our responsibility to defend democracy has increased manifold," Ms. Roy said.

Sitaram Lamba, a Congress manifesto committee member; Rakhi Rathore of the BJP; I.V. Gupta of the Aam Aadmi Party, Tara Singh Siddhu of the CPI; Sanjay Madhav of the CPI(M), and Shailendra Awasthi of the Samajwadi Party were among those who attended the Jan Manch, or people's forum, where the manifesto was released.

Dalit activist Bhanwar Meghwanshi raised a concern about the BJP giving ticket to Bari MLA Girraj Singh Malinga, who had allegedly assaulted a Dalit engineer in his constituency last year. "The BJP's action of inducting Mr. Malinga into the party and fielding him from the same seat has revealed its anti-Dalit mindset. The victim is still undergoing treatment in the hospital," he said.

They took exception to the BJP's decision to field former MLA Kanwar Lal Meena from Anta despite his alleged involvement in a violent attack on a 2016 Jawabdehi Yatra (accountability march) in Jhalawar district.

Several people participated in the function and took a pledge to raise the issues highlighted in the manifesto in their own constituencies. The activists will approach candidates and obtain a promise from them to work for the protection of people's rights.

FOR FULL COVERAGE OF ASSEMBLY POLLS
Please scan the QR code or visit
https://newsth.live/elections

'BJP works on collective decision, it's my duty to fulfil responsibilities given by party'

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister dismisses reports of anti-incumbency factor, says he is getting a lot of love from people; he says BJP is the only party that can ask its MPs and Union Ministers to contest Assembly poll due to its discipline; he also lists plans for women, farmers, and to check paper leaks

INTERVIEW

Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Ishita Mishra
Mehul Malpani

While the BJP is going with a collective leadership pitch for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election and is not projecting Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan as its chief ministerial face, Mr. Chouhan says he will discharge whatever duty he will be assigned by the party. He speaks on the anti-incumbency factor, schemes for women, exam paper leaks, and other issues. Excerpts:

If BJP gets majority, will we see Shivraj Singh Chouhan as the next Chief Minister?

The BJP works on the basis of collective decision. Here, things are not confined to one family like in Congress. Whatever the top leadership of the party decides, every worker follows it. I am also an ordinary worker of BJP and it is my duty to discharge the responsibilities given to me by the party.

Do you think fielding MPs and Union Ministers in Madhya Pradesh is a useful election strategy?

See, BJP believes in transparency in politics. Clean politics is our identity. All I can say is that BJP is the only party that can ask its MPs and Union Ministers to contest Assembly election and no other party can do this. Such is the discipline of our party.

You are the Chief Minister for almost two decades. You think the anti-incumbency factor can be a spoiler for BJP this time?

People sitting in Delhi talk about things like anti-incumbency. You come to Madhya Pradesh and you will find that there is only pro-incumbency for the BJP. I am getting a lot of love from people. The women of M.P. and I have become brother and sister and for children, I am their *Mama* (maternal uncle). It is my pledge to upgrade the lives of people of M.P.

The Ladli Behna Scheme has given an added popularity to you among women. What more do you have planned for women in future?

We started with Ladli Lakshmi in 2006 so that the daughter does not become a burden but a boon. Most people consider daughter's wedding as a burden and hence would not let her come into this world, so we came up with Mukhya Mantri Kanya Vivah Yojana. Then we also gave 50% reservation to women in the civic body elections. Madhya Pradesh was also the first State to give 30% reservation to women in police recruitment. Now, we have given 35% reservation in all government jobs to daughters, while it is 50% in teaching jobs.

GETTY IMAGES

There is a whole series of such work. In 2017, I started giving ₹1,000 to my *Baiga, Bhariya* and *Seheriya* sisters (three tribal communities that have considerable population in M.P.) and the results were great.

I believe a woman will never waste money, so when money comes in her hand, she uses it for her family's benefits, especially in improving the nutrition of children. If a woman has money, her self-confidence and self-respect increases. On February 28, I decided to bring Ladli Behna on floor and launched it on March 5 and after applications and scrutiny started giving money from June 20.

Today, 1.32 crore sisters are getting benefited from this scheme and their lives have really changed. Even in their homes, the standard of behaviour towards them has changed. They get more respect and their opinion is valued. We have brought it till here, now our further plan is to make every sister in Madhya Pradesh a *lakhpati*. This means that she will at least have an earning of ₹1 lakh a year or ₹10,000 a month. We have started doing this with the help of self-help groups. There are 53 lakh women in M.P. with the self-help groups and about 15 lakh of them have become lakhpati and are earning ₹10,000 a month. Now, I want to make every sister a *lakhpati*, who earns more than ₹10,000 a month, becomes self-dependent and financially empowered, and they don't have to beg anyone. So, this is our step for the future.

Farmers, especially in Bundelkhand, are in distress. There are attempts both by the Centre and State to solve water crisis but will farm loan waiver, as promised by the Congress, can be in place if BJP government comes to power?

Since Independence, Congress has ruled the country and M.P. for many decades. It is well known that the previous governments have meted out step-motherly treatment to Bundelkhand. They only tricked our people in the name of development. Today, when we have a double-engine government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we got the gift of Ken-Betwa Link Project for the people of Bundelkhand which will solve the water crisis, especially agricultural, and will bring prosperity in the lives of farmers.

As far as farm loan waiver is concerned, we are already doing it. When we came to power, we paid around ₹2,200 crore as loan waiver of farmers. In the past three years, the BJP government has given approximately ₹3 lakh crore in the accounts of farmers through various schemes. It is the BJP under PM Modi that gives ₹12,000 to farmers as *Samman Nidhi*.

What are your promises to the youth in M.P., because for the past several years there have been repeated and unabated case of question paper leaks in the State. What action has your government taken to stop this? Do you have any future plans in this regard?

We do not just make promises, but also fulfil them. Youth are the future of the country and we have made many efforts to ensure employment for the young population. We have started Mukhyamantri Sikho-Kamao Yojana (learn and earn scheme).

For paper leaks, we have also adopted complete transparency in the examinations and there are clear instructions for strict action against those found guilty of such acts. We hold exams in cases of paper leaks and get it investigated by judicial commissions.

A murder creates tensions in Narendra Tomar's Dimani

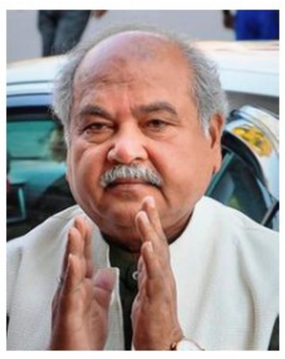
Mehul Malpani
DIMANI

It's only noon, but local residents warn of safety concerns due to the recent violence at Dimani in Morena district of Madhya Pradesh. "Leave as soon as you can as the tensions might increase here," says Lakhan Singh Nishad, a commercial driver.

Amid heavy electioneering in Dimani, where the BJP has fielded Union Agriculture Minister and Morena MP Narendra Singh Tomar, the violence on the night of November 3 has stirred up tensions. What started as a dispute between two friends over playing loud music on a tractor ended with gunfire, with Aidal Singh Gurjar allegedly killed by some men from the influential Tomar community. Following protests by the deceased's family and villagers, the administration bulldozed the houses of the accused on November 4. Dimani Station House Officer Udaybhan Singh Yadav says they have arrested one accused, while eight others are on the run. "We have deployed security in the victim's village," he says.

Madhya Pradesh is going to the polls on November 17. Dimani, which is part of the Gwalior-Chambal region, has emerged as one of the hotspots after the BJP decided to field Mr. Tomar from here.

The BJP won two only seats in Morena district in the 2018 election, with the Congress bagging four, including Dimani. Out of the 34 seats in the Gwalior-Chambal region, the BJP won only seven, while the Congress won 26.



Narendra Singh Tomar

Local residents in Dimani are excited about a Union Minister contesting from the seat, but admit that the election "is not going to be easy" for Mr. Tomar; they allege a "lack of connect" from his side.

Sanjay Sakwar, a farmer from Kachnodha village, says, "What has he done for the area? We are struggling even for the basic facilities here. He has never visited our village after elections." He points to an electricity transformer in his locality and claims that it has been dysfunctional for nearly four years.

Kalyan Singh Tomar, also a farmer, points to the problem of stray cattle in villages across the area. "During the [Congress's 15-month-long] Kamal Nath government, he had opened *gaushalas* and the cattle had been moved there. Now, they just roam around the villages, destroy crops and even attack people," he says.

Politicising murder

In Kachnodha, the lane where the murder accused lives bears a deserted look. Kalyan Singh Tomar, who lives near the house of the accused, prefers to remain quiet about the incident. "Nobody will talk about it here but the matter remains tense," he says.

In the victim's village of Rathol Ka Pura, relatives and neighbours have gathered outside his house to sympathise with the family and demand the arrest of all the accused."If the police arrests them and takes appropriate action, everything will remain normal in the area," says Jaswant Singh Gurjar, the brother of the deceased. He insists that he does not want the matter to get politicised or for the incident to trigger enmity between the two communities.

A journalist, who also hails from the Tomar community, says the matter has already been politicised, with the Gurjar votes likely to be consolidated in favour of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) candidate Balveer Singh Dandotita, even as Mr. Narendra Singh Tomar is likely to face anger from the Tomar community after the bulldozing of the house of the accused.

In Dimani town, Yogesh Singh Tomar has a different view, vowing that the Tomar community will ensure a win for the Minister.

KTR escapes unhurt after falling off campaign vehicle in Nizamabad

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader K.T. Rama Rao had a lucky escape on Thursday after he fell off a campaign vehicle in Armoor town of Nizamabad.

Mr. Rao, Armoor BRS candidate Jeevan Reddy, and Rajya Sabha member K.R. Suresh Reddy, along with others, were travelling by the open-top van when the driver suddenly applied brakes.

Due to the impact, the railings came off and the three leaders fell off the van.

While Mr. Suresh and Mr. Jeevan fell down on the road and were injuried, Mr. Rao escaped with minor injuries as his security personnel held him.

COAL INDIA LIMITED
(A Maharatna Company)
"All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of Coal India Ltd www.coalindia.in / respective Subsidiary Company, CIL e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Procurement Portal htttps://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in".

Mysore District Co-Operative Milk Producers'Societies Union Ltd.,
Bannur Road, Alanahalli Post, Mysuru-570028.
Phone No. 0821-2474475, Fax No.0821-2474476,
e - mail : purmymul@gmail.com
IFT No:KMF/2023-24/IND0428 Date:09.11.2023
Tender Notification - (Through e-Tender only)
Mysuru Dist. Co-Op Milk Union Ltd invite tender for Design, Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of new fully Automatic **1.5LLPD** Expandable to **2 LLPD UHT** milk plant and Utilities at **Mysuru Mega Dairy plant** on turnkey basis through E-procurement portal. For the tender document please visit e-procurement platform at **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. Last date for uploading of document 06.01.2024 till 05.00 PM.**
For further information please contact **Manager (Purchase)** during working hours.**(Mobile No:6366430803)**
Sd/- Managing Director
Mysore District Co-Operative Milk Union Ltd.,

INBRIEF

SC grants relief to Surjewala facing non-bailable warrant

The Supreme Court on Thursday gave reprieve to Congress leader Randeep Surjewala by staying the execution of a non-bailable warrant (NBW) issued against him by a Varanasi court in a 23-year-old case. A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud urgently heard Mr. Surjewala's petition, represented by senior advocate A.M. Singhvi. The top court froze the NBW for five weeks and gave Mr. Surjewala four weeks to file an application in the trial court to cancel the NBW. The case dates back to 2000 when Mr. Surjewala, the then national president of Youth Congress, was charged with allegedly creating ruckus during a protest in Varanasi.

PM Modi's degree: Gujarat HC rejects Kejriwal's review plea

The Gujarat High Court on Thursday rejected the petition filed by Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party leader Arvind Kejriwal seeking a review of its March judgment quashing an order of the Central Information Commission that had directed the Gujarat University to provide details of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's academic degree to Mr. Kejriwal. Justice Biren Vaishnav, who passed the order, held that the court would "tend to agree with the submission" of Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, representing the varsity, that Mr. Kejriwal having lost his legal remedy continues to "harp upon his pursuit in the case that does not reflect good taste in public life".

Aadhaar authentication continues to face glitches

Service was unavailable for over 54 hours till September this year due to issues such as delay in sending OTPs and 'minor fluctuations' faced by servers, nodal agency UIDAI said in RTI reply

Aroon Deep
NEW DELHI

Aadhaar authentication services were interrupted for over 54 hours in 2023, representing a significant outage for the largest identity platform in the world.

In a Right to Information (RTI) response to *The Hindu*, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) revealed that delays in sending one-time passcodes (OTPs) by SMS, and 'intermittent' and 'minor fluctuations' in authentication were faced by Aadhaar servers for hours-long periods throughout the year till September, amounting to 54 hours and 33 minutes of disruptions.

Aadhaar authentications are key to how the 12-digit identifier functions: while a 'card' is typically issued to Indian residents, authentication to access services only happens when someone puts in their fingerprint or keys in an SMS passcode to access ration items or verify their identity to access government services.

The UIDAI did not respond to emailed queries on the downtime faced by its servers.

A PDS card holder authenticates his fingerprint for receiving essential items at an outlet in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu. Aadhaar authentication services rely on UIDAI servers.

Technical uncertainty

Authentication – which has many uses like Aadhaar-enabled ATM machines and daily employee attendance at some government offices – relies on servers administered by the UIDAI and linkages with telecom operators, which may not always work when needed.

Prolonged and repeated outages throw up uncertainty on the reliability of Aadhaar services when they are needed.

Since Aadhaar was launched back in 2009, over 100 billion authentications have taken place.

Reetika Khera, an economics professor at IIT Delhi who has closely studied the identity programme for years, said that access and transparency issues on technical failures have long plagued Aadhaar. The data obtained by *The Hindu* "confirm that technical glitches are baked into the system," Dr. Khera wrote in an email. "People are being punished and deprived of their entitlements on account of UIDAI's incompetence," she charged, citing fieldwork she was involved in where "server problems" kept cropping up.

Dr. Khera said that the UIDAI should publish these outages for all to see on its websites. So far, information on server disruptions are only shared with agencies that have access to these systems to carry out authentications, as and when disruptions occur.

Centre faults Punjab's farm fires for Delhi's air pollution problem

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

With Delhi's air quality plummeting precipitously, a meeting chaired by the Cabinet Secretary, in which senior officers of the governments of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi participated, has concluded that the current crisis was mostly on account of stubble burning.

Central government sources said that 38% of the air pollution was contributed by stubble burning.

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav posted on X on Thursday that "... 93% of farm fire (stubble burning) events this year have happened in Punjab and that was because the Aam Aadmi Party had failed to provide alternatives to farmers." Since 2018, the Centre had given ₹1,426 crore to Punjab for crop residue management machines but to little effect, he alleged.

Data from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute's satellite monitoring division suggests that of the 35,350 crop residue burning events recorded this year, 65% have been reported out of Punjab. So far, 23,620 events – the lowest in four years – have been reported this year (September 15-November 9) from the State, compared to 34,868 last year.

A file photo of a farmer burning stubble in a field in Amritsar, Punjab. PTI

Haryana has only reported 1,676 events, or about 4%, down from 2,693 last year and much lower than the 4,753 in 2020. Madhya Pradesh, which ranks after Punjab reported 3,032 instances – or about 8% – and down from 4,374 last year.

However, nearly 32 lakh hectares have come under paddy in Punjab this year, compared to 13 lakh hectares in Haryana.

The data from Madhya Pradesh was not immediately available.

At the meeting held on Wednesday, officials said that 90% of harvesting was complete in Haryana compared to 60% in Punjab and therefore "immediate steps" were necessary to curtail burning.

'CBI an independent agency, not a limb of the Union govt.'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

West Bengal filed a suit in SC alleging the Central agency was registering FIRs without prior consent of State govt.

The Union government claimed in the Supreme Court on Thursday that the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) was its own boss and the government had no control whatsoever over the probe agency in the registration, investigation, and prosecution of cases.

The Centre's argument before a Bench of Justices B.R. Gavai and Arvind Kumar was based on a suit filed by West Bengal. The State alleged that the Central agency was probing several cases and registering FIRs in the State without taking prior consent from the West Bengal government.

"CBI is an independent agency. CBI is not a limb of the Centre. It is a statutory body under the Delhi Special Police Establishment [DSPE] Act," Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the Union government, argued.

Mr. Mehta submitted that an original suit under Article 131 of the Constitution is filed in a dispute between the Union and a State or between States.

He said the suit was not maintainable and should be dismissed outright as it had deliberately missed the point that the Centre had nothing to do with the CBI registering cases in West Bengal. The agency was acting on its own terms. The Centre had no hold over the CBI's decisions in investigative matters.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, for West Bengal, said the case was not about the Centre's influence over the CBI. He said the issue raised in the suit was about the jurisdiction of the CBI to investigate cases in a State which has withdrawn consent to it.

Mr. Sibal said it was preposterous for the Centre to contend that only a Central agency could investigate offences made out in a Union law. "So, a State police force has no power to investigate offences in a Central law...a preposterous proposition," he exclaimed.

The West Bengal government argued that the CBI's power to investigate offences can extend to other States under Section 5 of the DSPE Act, provided the State gives an express consent under Section 6 of the same Act.

Pak. firing kills BSF jawan; third ceasefire violation since Oct. 17

Peerzada Ashiq
JAMMU/SRINAGAR

A Border Security Force (BSF) soldier was killed as the Pakistani Rangers resorted to "unprovoked" ceasefire violation along the International Border (IB) at Samba in Jammu on Thursday. This is the third such violation since October 17.

"The Pakistani forces targeted our posts thrice in Samba. We will chalk out a strategy to deal with cross-border fire effectively in the future," Director-General of BSF Nitin Agarwal said in the Kashmir Valley.

He said the BSF gave a befitting reply to the Pakistani firing. "We have come to know about damages on the other side too. We are confirming the details. We are ascertaining the reasons behind frequent ceasefire violations by Pakistan and will plan our strategy accordingly," he said.

According to officials, the Pakistan Rangers resorted to "unprovoked firing" along the border around 12:20 a.m. "The Pakistan Rangers started firing at the Narayanpur post in Ramgarh, Samba. The BSF also retaliated and the firing between the two sides continued for some time," the officials said.

Head Constable Lal Farnn Kima of 148 Battalion succumbed to his injuries.

India and Pakistan renewed their pledge to abide by the 2003 ceasefire pact in February 2021. Since then, there were very few incidents where Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged fire along the Line of Control (LoC) or IB.

SC attains full strength as case log nears 80,000

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court welcomed three new judges on Thursday, taking the judicial strength to its sanctioned capacity of 34, even as the pendency clock on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) dashboard threatens to hit a high of 80,000 cases in the next 24 hours.

Delhi High Court Chief Justice Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, and Rajasthan and Gauhati Chief Justices Augustine George Masih and Sandeep Mehta were sworn in as Supreme Court judges within three days of the Collegium recommending them, even as October alone saw the filing of nearly 5,000 cases.

'Perennial pendency'

The November 6 Collegium recommendation highlighted the perennial pendency and said it intended to tackle the backlog of the court, which bobbed up and down the 70,000-mark in 2022 following the pandemic, despite administrative and institutional changes, by getting rid of the problem of judicial vacancies.

"In view of the ever mounting pendency of cases, the workload of judges has increased considerably. Bearing in mind the above, it has become necessary to ensure that the court has full working judge strength leaving no vacancy at any point of time," the Collegium had observed in its resolution on November 6.

According to the NJDG dashboard , the total pendency in the Supreme Court as of Thursday evening is ticking at 79,717 registered and unregistered cases. Of these, 24,834 cases are less than a year old. Total cases instituted in October were 4,915 while 4,454 were disposed of in the same month. The year 2023 has so far seen 47,135 cases instituted and 46,193 disposed of.

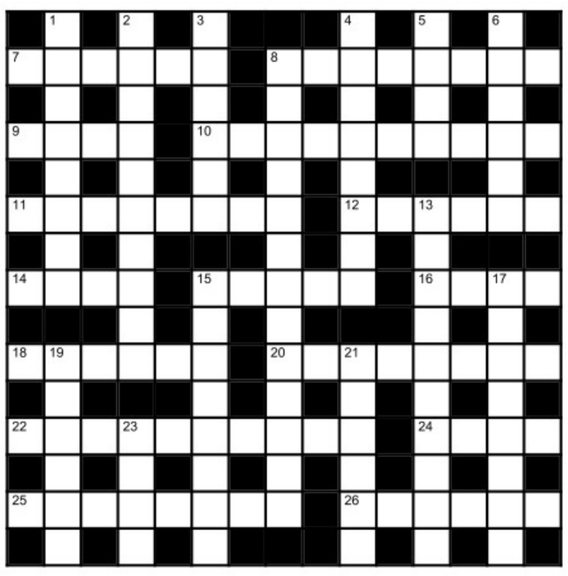
Chief Justice Chandrachud inherited 69,647 cases on November 9, 2022 when he took office as top judge. The swearing-in of the three judges and the court reaching its full judicial strength coincides with Chief Justice Chandrachud completing a year as the Chief Justice of India.

TH CROSSWORD + 14017

(set by Crescent)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

7 Delight in rescuer saving one (6)
8 Trivia broadcast if broadcast lacks supporter (8)
9 Good, free network (4)
10 Field day welcomed by lifeless soccer team (4,6)
11 A touch to ease in case of necessity (2,1,5)
12 Happy essentially to permit short program (6)
14 Bill providing choice to eat sample of prime nuts (4)
15 Line stops advances (5)
16 Complain about average cycles (4)
18 Run naked of course (6)
20 Innocuous leader in House without top members? (8)
22 Pigment left to mix in crucible (7-3)
24 Everything on time? Unbelievable! (4)
25 Verbally attacks plump boy (6,2)
26 Section in bases where bats rest (6)

Down

1 Hot air behind tail of car through opening throttle (8)
2 One made up, not author's original, including Wodehouse's alias? (3,2,5)
3 Rehearsal to air function (3,3)
4 Despicable people, smug, expressing one basic complex (8)
5 Reserved pass given to daughter (4)
6 Counsel failing to support upcoming lawyer (6)
8 Prospector could be awaiting this brief success (5,2,3,3)
13 Nothing in place, unit suffering pilferage (10)
15 Enjoy head's correspondence (8)
17 Set out, else run out (8)
19 Must remorse include some shaking? (6)
21 Sharp reply in anger dismissing one wrong (6)
23 Stylish after hundred years (4)

SUDOKU

			1		3			9
				8				7
						4	8	2
	9			6		7		
8			3		9			1
		1		7			4	
9	8	7						
2				1				
5			9		6			

No.SS5974 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

Solution to previous puzzle

	W		F		S		C		F		D		R
D	O	P	E		T	I	A	R	A		O	B	O	E
	O		A		Y		T		R		C		O
A	S	H	R	A	M		F	R	E	E	T	I	M	E
			L		I		I		W		O			
C	L	U	E	L	E	S	S		E	A	R	N	E	R
	H		S				H		L				X	
C	A	P	S	T	A	N		E	L	E	V	A	T	E
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T	A	I	C	H	I		T	E	N	O	N	S	A	W
			O		C		T		O		I			
A	R	M	C	H	A	I	R		R	U	S	S	I	A
	O		O		B		A		W		H		R	
L	A	M	A		L	U	C	I	A		E	X	I	T
	R		S		E		T		Y		D		S	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

1	6	9	8	3	2	4	7	5
5	4	8	6	7	1	2	3	9
7	3	2	4	5	9	6	1	8
9	2	5	7	8	6	1	4	3
8	7	4	1	9	3	5	6	2
3	1	6	5	2	4	9	8	7
6	9	3	2	1	7	8	5	4
2	5	1	3	4	8	7	9	6
4	8	7	9	6	5	3	2	1

FAITH

Durga Stuti, effective prayer

Today, we do not know from which direction we have to face challenges. In ancient times, this was comparatively easy – most confrontations were the handiwork of asuras, with rishis and saints at the receiving end. They would promptly beseech the Lord, who would ensure dharma was re-established. In Kali Yuga, we face various hardships and God sends spiritual leaders to this world, who guide humanity on navigating worldly perils, said Tiruvidaimarudur Brahmasri Nidhiswara Shrowthigal in a discourse.

One such mahan is Appaya Dikshitendra, whose body of spiritual work is vast, ranging from Markandeya Puranam, Srivaraha Puranam, Devi Bhagavatam, to Hari Vamsam among others. It includes the Durga Chandrakala Stuti, a total of 16 slokas, composed on Durga. He always held that no matter what travails one faces, focusing one's mind on the Goddess is a protective armour, as it were. The Durga Channdrakala Stuti in particular is an effective prayer when one is facing severe issues, be it on the health, finance or work front. *Deshakaleshu dushtéshu durga Chandra kala stuti sandhyayoranusandheyaa sarvapadvinivirittaye* (whenever life becomes difficult in this world, whoever chants this, twice a day in sandhyakala, will find all threats vanishing forthwith).

RAMALLAH

Ten Palestinians killed in an Israeli raid on Jenin, says Health Ministry

AFP

Ten Palestinians were killed on Thursday during an Israeli raid on Jenin in the north of the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian Health Ministry said. The Israeli Army said its forces were operating in Jenin but did not provide further details. Israel has arrested over 1,000 Palestinians in the West Bank since Oct. 7, the Army said. AFP

MADRID

Spain's Socialist Party to grant amnesty to Catalan separatists

AFP

Spain's Socialist Party has struck a deal with a fringe Catalan separatist party to grant an amnesty for potentially thousands of people involved in the region's failed secession bid in exchange for its key backing of acting Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez in forming a new government. AP

YANGON

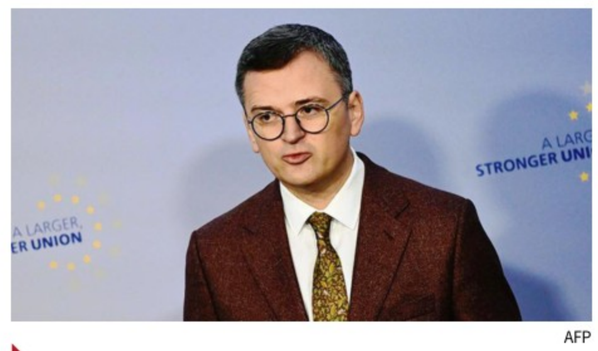
Armed rebellion risks break-up of Myanmar: junta-backed President

AFP

Myanmar's junta-backed President Myint Swe said the country is at risk of breaking apart if the military cannot crush a joint offensive by ethnic armed groups along the border with China, state media reported on Thursday. Fighting has raged for almost two weeks across northern Shan state near the China border. AFP

KYIV

Ukraine says calls for talks with Russia 'uninformed or misled'



AFP

Ukraine on Thursday criticised calls for Kyiv to hold negotiations with Russia, following reports its allies were pushing for talks in the wake of a underwhelming Ukrainian counter-offensive. "Those who argue that Ukraine should negotiate with Russia now are either uninformed or misled," Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said. AFP

Israel to begin four-hour pauses in northern Gaza

Pauses emerged out of discussions between U.S and Israeli officials in recent days; U.S. says a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas militants is not in order because it would help Hamas

Reuters
Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Israeli troops during operations in northern Gaza on Wednesday, amid continuing battles between Israel and Hamas. AFP

Israel will begin four-hour pauses in northern Gaza starting on Thursday to allow people to flee hostilities, the White House said in what it called a step in the right direction.

White House National Security spokesperson John Kirby said the pauses emerged out of discussions between U.S. and Israeli officials in recent days, including talks U.S. President Joe Biden had with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Mr. Kirby said the pauses would allow people to get out of harm's way and for deliveries of humanitarian aid and could be used as a way to get hostages out.

"We've been told by the Israelis that there will be no military operations in these areas over the duration of the pause, and that this process is starting today," Mr. Kirby said.

"We understand that Israel will begin to implement four-hour pauses in areas of northern Gaza" with an announcement to come three hours in advance," he said.

He called the news a step in the right direction. "We think these are significant first steps here and obviously we want to see them continued for as long as they are needed," he added. Mr. Kirby also said a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas militants is not in order because it would help Hamas and "legitimise what they did on October 7 and we simply are not going to stand for that at this time".

Meanwhile, strikes pounded Gaza City overnight into Thursday as ground forces battled Hamas militants in dense urban neighbourhoods from which tens of thousands have fled in recent days.

Israeli troops were around 3 km from Shifa Hospital in the heart of downtown, the hospital's director said. Israel has been vague on troop movements, but officials say Gaza's largest city is the focus of their campaign to crush Hamas following its deadly October 7 assault inside Israel.

The Israeli military says Hamas's main command centre is located in and under the hospital complex and that senior leaders are hiding there, using the facility as a shield. Hamas and hospital staff deny the claims and say the military is creating a pretext to strike it.

International journalists who entered the north on a tour led by the Israeli military on Wednesday saw heavily damaged buildings, fields of rubble and toppled trees along the Mediterranean shoreline.

U.K.'s Braverman accuses police of bias for refusing to ban pro-Palestine march

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

U.K. Home Secretary Suella Braverman has accused the Metropolitan Police of bias following its refusal to ban a pro-Palestine march in London this Saturday. Ms. Braverman also referred to protestors as "hate marchers".

The protests have been held weekly since Israel's retaliatory strikes on Gaza began last month, but will coincide with Armistice Day ceremonies in London on November 11, prompting the government to object to them. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has been urged by several lawmakers to sack Ms. Braverman over her language.

"Unfortunately, there is a perception that senior police officers play favourites when it comes to protesters," Ms. Braverman wrote in her op-ed in *The Times*, arguing that during COVID, Black Lives Matter demonstrators were "enabled" and "allowed to break rules".

Suella Braverman

"I do not believe that these marches are merely a cry for help for Gaza," she wrote, as she compared them to marches in Northern Ireland to assert the primacy of "certain groups – particularly Islamists".

Ms. Braverman accused the police of a "double standard", arguing right-wing nationalist protestors are "rightly met with a stern response". No.10 Downing Street had not approved Ms. Braverman's article, as per multiple reports in the British press, although it had provided her with feedback on a draft. Mr. Sunak had said on Wednesday that holding protests as Britain commemorates the end of First World War was "disrespectful". Mr. Sunak had summoned Met Chief Mark Rowley, and had said he would hold the police "accountable" for safeguarding Saturday's remembrance services for Britain's war dead.

Mr. Rowley had said the Met was determined to keep commemorative services safe but could not ban the protest as it did not have the absolute power to do so. The conditions under which a protest could be banned, had not been met in this instance, Mr. Rowley argued, noting that the protest organisers had agreed to stay away from commemoration service locations.

Labour's Shadow Business Secretary called Ms. Braverman's language "divisive" and "inflammatory". Among those calling for Ms. Braverman's ousting was Liberal Democrat leader Ed Davey. "Rishi Sunak must finally act with integrity by sacking his out-of-control Home Secretary," he wrote on X.

"He's got a Home Secretary who is out of control," said Labour leader Keir Starmer, as he accused Mr. Sunak of being "too weak to do anything about it".

U.S. strikes Iran-linked weapons site in Syria

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

U.S. warplanes carried out a strike on an Iran-linked weapons storage facility in eastern Syria on Wednesday in response to attacks against American personnel, U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said.

It is the second time in roughly two weeks that the United States has targeted a location in Syria it said was tied to Iran, which supports an array of armed groups that Washington blames for a spike in attacks on its forces in the West Asia.

The United States is striving to deter Iran and its proxies from turning the Israel-Hamas fighting into a regional war, but the repeated attacks and strikes in response risk a conflict between Washington and Tehran.

It is the second time in roughly two weeks that the United States has targeted a location in Syria

A senior U.S. defence official said the strike was being combined "with very clear messaging through multiple channels. And the message is, to Iranian senior leaders, 'We want you to direct your proxies and militia groups to stop attacking us'".

Police clash with workers in Dhaka

Agence France-Presse
GAZIPUR

Up to 25,000 garment workers clashed with police in Bangladesh on Thursday, officials said, as protests rejecting a government-offered pay rise forced the closure of at least 100 factories outside Dhaka.

A government-appointed panel raised wages on Tuesday by 56.25% for the South Asian nation's four million garment factory workers, who are seeking a near-tripling of their monthly wage.

Police said violence broke out in the industrial towns of Gazipur and Ashulia outside the capital after more than 10,000 workers staged protests in factories and along highways to reject the panel's offer.

Thousands of workers also clashed with the elite Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) and police at Konabari and Naujore in Gazipur, with police using batons and tear gas to drive them into alleys.

"Some 15,000 workers blocked the road at Konabari, and vandalised vehicles and other properties. We had to disperse them to maintain law and order," Gazipur municipality administrator Sayed Murad Ali said. At least two injured workers were taken to hospital, police said.

Donald Trump's rivals vow to support Israel and argue over China and Ukraine

Associated Press
MIAMI

In their first debate since the start of the Israel-Hamas war, the Republican presidential candidates all declared hawkish support for Israel but squabbled over China and Ukraine as they faced growing pressure to try to catch Donald Trump, who was again absent.

Sparring over several issues were Ron DeSantis and Nikki Haley, who has appeared competitive with Mr. DeSantis' distant second-place position in some national polls. Much of the debate focused on policy – especially foreign policy issues – rather than Mr. Trump and his record.

Ms. Haley, the former South Carolina Governor and United Nations Ambassador, declared she would end trade relations with China "until they stop murdering Americans from fentanyl – something Mr. DeSantis has yet to say that he's going to do." In return, the Florida Governor said Ms. Haley "welcomed" Chinese investment to her state, referencing a land deal with a Chinese manufacturer while she led South Carolina.

Nikki Haley

Also appearing onstage were South Carolina Senator Tim Scott, former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy.

All the candidates said they were staunchly behind Israel as it mounts an offensive in Gaza following Hamas's October 7 attack that killed over 1,400 people.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Trivandrum Division
Tender Notice No.V/W/TVC/27/2023 Dated 07/11/2023

Divisional Railway Manager/Works Branch/Trivandrum Division, Trivandrum-14 for and on behalf of the President of India Invites ONLINE tenders for the following works as per tender notice and Complete details are given in our e-tender portal **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sl. No.	Description	Approx. Value Rs. (in lakhs)	Earnest Money Deposit Rs.	Period of Completion
1.	TVC Division - DEN/South jurisdiction - Proposed strengthening of steel Girder Bridges.	178.46	239200	SIX
2.	Pro. Regirdering with new metalised girder of Br No.161 Up (3 x 19.54m span) at Km: 76/900-77/00 in SRR - ERS section and Br No. 174 Up. (1 x 18.30m span) At Km 84/100 - 200 in ERS - KTYM - KYI section. Erection of 4 spans and supply & fixing of H Beam sleepers.	171.56	235800	SIX
3.	Trivandrum Division TBSR Renewal of corroded channel sleepers with new H-beam steel sleepers 440 nos. (Bridge no:176-376 nos and Bridge no 367-64 nos)	124.08	212000	SIX
4.	Nagercoil: Improvement to TTE's Rest room for gents.	17.28	34600	FIVE
5.	Trivandrum Division Attention to yards in Alleppey P.Way Section	114.36	207200	TWELVE
6.	Vallathol Nagar Raising of platform No.1	180.63	240300	TWELVE
7.	ADEN Kollam Subdivision - Kollam P-way section Maintenance and repairs of minor bridges including clearing of waterway and approach drains.	77.02	154100	SIX
8.	Trivandrum Division Attention to yards in Mavelikkara P.Way Section.	59.75	119500	TWELVE
9.	Trivandrum Division Increasing Super Density (5) for a length of 4.268 km (KY) TVC section 2.768 km, NCJ-TEN Section-1.500 km)	34.48	69000	SIX
10.	TVC Division - Provision of office accommodation for SSE/JE/Signal & Tele in S&T branch at NNN, KCVL, KPY & SRTL	54.07	108200	TWELVE
11.	Proposed Maintenance of Newly created P.Way Assets at KCVL Yard for a period of one year	59.89	119800	TWELVE
12.	Trivandrum Division - Attention to yards in Kollam P.Way Section	76.35	152700	TWELVE
13.	TTR (TWS+CMSC)-9 sets (1 in 12-6 sets, 1 in 8.5-3 sets) and TTR(CS+CMSC)-7 sets (1 in 8.5-3sets, 1 in 12-4 sets).	83.96	167900	TWELVE
14.	Provision of Passenger Lifts at AWY-2 Nos (PF1 & 2/3).	25.43	50900	NINE
15.	Trivandrum Division Increasing Sleeper Density (5) for a length of 6.631 Tkm (SRR-ERS Section-1.946 km, ERS-KTYM-KYJ Section 4.685 km).	49.82	99600	SIX
16.	Deweeding in colony, station premises and platform in all station at SSE/W/ERS section.	27.44	54900	TWELVE
17.	Nagercoil Jn. - Repairs to platform shelter on platform No.1.	33.07	66200	FIVE
18.	Replacement of existing 12.20m steel girder of Br.No.2352-ON (1x12.20m), Br.No.2355 UP (2X 12.20mm) & Br. No.2389 ON (1x12.20m) in QLN - TVC Section.	316.06	308000	SIX

Tender Closing date and time: Sl No: 1 to 18 : 29-11-2023 at 11.00 hrs
Note: It is the responsibility of the tenderer to check any Corrigendum issued for any correction or modifications uploaded subsequently in website; the same shall be taken into account while submitting.
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INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR ASTRONOMY AND ASTROPHYSICS
IUCAA (An Autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission)
Savitribai Phule Pune University Campus, Ganeshkhind, Pune - 411007.

Advertisement

Applications are invited for the following posts :

Name of the Post	No of Post	Pay Level as per 7th CPC Pay Matrix	TME (Rs.)
Administrative Officer	1-OBC	Pay Level -10	1,07,565/-*
Administrative Officer	1-UR	Pay Level -10	1,07,565/-*

Abbreviation : OBC - Other Backward Class, UR - Unreserved.
*Other benefits as Leave Travel Concession, New Pension Scheme, Medical Facility and Children Education allowance applicable to Central Government Employees from time to time.
Those who have already applied for these posts need not apply again.
For further details regarding the above posts and online application, please visit our website : **http://www.iucaa.in/opportunities.html**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Materials Management Department
Auction Programme Notice No: 12/2023

E-Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous scrap, Non-Ferrous scrap, other Misc scrap, condemned Wagon, Coaches & Locos, Scrap Rails and other Permanent Way scrap material.

Sl. No.	e-Auction conducted by	Date of auction for the month of December 23				Material for auction
1	GSD/PER	07/12/23	14/12/23	21/12/23	--	The details of item to be sold in e-auction will be available in catalogue in **www.ireps.gov.in** Website
2	CSSD/GOC	06/12/23	13/12/23	20/12/23	28/12/23	
3	SSD/PT	04/12/23	11/12/23	18/12/23	26/12/23	
4	MAS Division	05/12/23	12/12/23	19/12/23	27/12/23	
5	SA Division	04/12/23	11/12/23	18/12/23	26/12/23	
6	TVC Division	05/12/23	12/12/23	19/12/23	27/12/23	
7	PGT Division	06/12/23	13/12/23	20/12/23	28/12/23	
8	TPJ Division	01/12/23	08/12/23	15/12/23	22/12/23	
9	MDU Division	01/12/23	08/12/23	15/12/23	22/12/23	

Total no. of auction for the month of December 2023 - 35 Nos
Note: Surplus Diesel locos in "as is where is condition" may be auctioned.
For detailed terms and conditions and downloading of catalogue please visit our web-site **http://www.ireps.gov.in** ->E-Auction->Sale->Live Auctions.
Dy.Chief Materials Manager/Sales/PER
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailways

APPOINTMENT

WE ARE HIRING CONSULTANTS
ISO 9001:2015

Location of Project/Posting: A.P, India
Consultants below the age of 65 years are required for the following positions:

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- **Senior Manager (Dams)**
- **Senior Manager (R&R)**
- **Manager (Geo-Tech)**
- **Manager (Instrumentation)**
- **Manager (GIS)**

Interested candidates must submit their CVs to **polavaram@wapcos.co.in** & **environment@wapcos.co.in** by **Nov 16, 2023**
For qualification criteria & experience visit our website **www.wapcos.co.in**

INBRIEF

Apollo Hospitals consolidated net rises 17% to ₹249 crore

Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd.'s consolidated net profit for the September quarter rose 17% to ₹249 crore from the year-earlier period. Revenue from operations increased to ₹4,847 crore from ₹4,251 crore, the healthcare major said. The healthcare services division's revenue increased 12% to ₹2,547 crore. Apollo Health and Lifestyle Ltd. (Diagnostics and Retail Healthcare) posted an 11% growth to ₹354 crore, while Apollo HealthCo Ltd. rose 17% to ₹1,945 crore.

Indo-National Q2 net more than doubles to ₹4.8 crore

Indo-National Ltd.'s (formerly Nippo Batteries) Q2 standalone net profit more than doubled to ₹4.8 crore from the year-earlier period on strong sales volume. Revenue from operations rose 26% to ₹135 crore from ₹108 crore, the makers of dry cell batteries said. "Overall, we are delighted with the numerous developments that unfolded in FY24," said JMD Aditya Reddy. "These developments showcase the transformation and innovation underway at INL and Kineco," he added.

Airbus partners HAL to set up maintenance and repair unit

French aerospace manufacturer Airbus said on Thursday it was partnering with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for commercial aircraft service support. Under the pact, Airbus will provide the A320 family tool package and offer specialised consulting services to HAL to set up maintenance, repair, and operations (MRO) infrastructure. Airbus will also offer HAL access to AirbusWorld, a digital platform that offers support, technical data and training solutions.

'Food price shocks, a risk to inflation'

Headline inflation is projected to fall from 6.7% in 2022-23 to 5.4% in 2023-24 but it remains prone to food price shocks, says RBI Governor Das; Developments in West Asia have added to the litany of challenges for the global economy, he observes

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Even though CPI inflation has been projected at 5.4% for 2023-24 by the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), a moderation from 6.7% in 2022-23, headline inflation remains vulnerable to recurring and overlapping food price shocks, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das said in Tokyo on Thursday.

"Core inflation has also moderated by 170 basis points since its recent peak in January 2023. [But] in these circumstances, monetary policy remains watchful and actively disinflationary to progressively align inflation to the target, while supporting growth," he said. Stating that the global economy continued to face multiple macroeconomic and geopolitical shocks, Mr. Das said the prediction of a global recession had not come true but there were indications that global growth was slowing down amid tightening financial conditions and still elevated inflation.

"Even as the fallouts of the pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the unprecedented tightening of monetary policy reverberate across the world, the recent developments in West Asia have added to the litany of challenges for the global economy," he said.

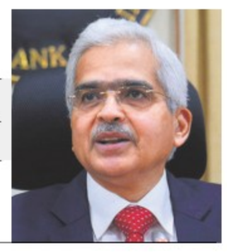
"Policymaking in this scenario becomes extremely challenging with difficult trade-offs – growth versus inflation; price stability versus financial stability; and current exigency versus future sustainability. There is always a risk of doing too little or doing too much," he emphasised. The RBI Governor told the gathering that it was a matter of satisfaction that the Indian economy had sailed through turbulent waters smoothly during recent years.

"Growth is getting a stronger foothold while inflation is also coming under control. Our economic performance also owes a lot to the very calibrated and targeted monetary and fiscal responses since the pandemic," he said.

Persisting threats

RBI Governor notes that policymakers have managed to temper price gains, but risks to inflation still remain

- RBI Governor says the global economy continues to face multiple macroeconomic and geopolitical shocks
- Policymaking in the current scenario is extremely challenging given a difficult trade-off between growth and inflation, he adds
- Mr. Das notes while core inflation has moderated, monetary policy still remains disinflationary to align inflation to target



'Carbon emissions yet to fully decouple from GDP growth'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Michael Debabrata Patra

While the growing recognition of the adverse effects of climate change had led to some recent actions that were weakening the correlation between carbon emissions and GDP growth globally, an absolute decoupling was yet to happen, Reserve Bank of India Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra said at the New York Fed Central Banking Seminar, as per a text of his speech posted on the RBI's website.

"Climate change can affect price stability through supply shocks such as food and energy shortages and through a decline in productive capacity. Demand shocks can arise due to the loss of wealth of firms and households on account of frequent natural disasters," Dr. Patra said.

"Physical and transition risks can affect the balance sheets of financial institutions and banks, limiting the flow of credit to the real economy. These destructive forces interact with each other to form vicious feedback loops."

Noting that several central banks had expressed reservations about engaging with climate related issues to avoid mission creep, while others had expressed inability in view of lacking the instruments, Dr. Patra said: "central banks cannot be immune or inactive any longer".

"The time to act is now... Development and climate change are not necessarily pitted in a trade off - sustainable development is key," he added.

'RBI to hold rates till it clearly sights Fed heading to cut'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will keep interest rates on hold until rate cuts by the U.S. Federal Reserve are "more clearly in sight", Moody's Investors Service said on Thursday. adding that post-festival demand dynamics in India, which will likely sustain growth in the near-term amid weak exports, will depend on inflation and the lagged impact of monetary tightening.

While ample reserves, solid domestic growth and largely contained inflationary pressures offered the RBI space to calibrate monetary policy, the persistence of elevated external risks would constrain the central bank into keeping interest rates high, Moody's observed in a note.

It also noted that even as robust GST collections, auto sales and consumer optimism suggest urban demand is likely to stay strong during the ongoing festive season, rural demand "remains vulnerable to uneven monsoons that could lower crop yields and farm incomes".

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	64,832	-0.22
US Dollar	83.29	0.01
Gold	60,950	-0.65
Brent oil	80.96	0.39

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2214.65	-45.30
Adani Ports	806.20	-12.50
Apollo Hosp	5297.60	186.65
Asian Paints	3080.20	-15.05
Axis Bank	1021.90	0.20
Bajaj Auto	5418.90	21.30
Bajaj Finserv	1582.25	6.75
Bajaj Finance	7386.70	-73.25
Bharti Airtel	932.35	-4.40
BPCL	383.55	-0.65
Britannia Ind	4652.10	-18.50
Cipla	1238.15	-2.85
Coal India	323.55	6.15
Divis Lab	3498.50	7.60
Dr Reddys Lab	5457.95	4.40
Eicher Motors	3541.90	-8.40
Grasim Ind	1935.00	1.15
HCL Tech	1267.50	-0.15
HDFC Bank	1485.65	-5.90
HDFC Life	621.35	2.60
Hero MotoCorp	3173.90	41.80
Hindalco	484.45	-3.60
Hind Unilever	2476.70	-42.65
ICICI Bank	937.35	1.60
IndusInd Bank	1507.35	18.40
Infosys	1374.80	-16.20
ITC	434.40	-2.55
JSW Steel	750.85	-5.85
Kotak Bank	1744.95	-1.30
L&T	3024.85	28.40
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5254.70	21.30
M&M	1552.05	64.65
Maruti Suzuki	10400.35	78.05
NestleIndia	24226.75	-54.80
NTPC	237.95	1.25
ONGC	192.70	-2.65
PowerGrid Corp	209.80	2.80
Reliance Ind	2310.55	-25.35
SBI Life	1350.70	5.20
State Bank	578.35	-1.95
Sun Pharma	1176.20	-0.50
TataConsumerProduct	902.85	-13.45
Tata Motors	649.35	6.80
Tata Steel	119.65	0.60
TCS	3347.45	-34.10
Tech Mahindra	1123.95	-15.20
Titan	3283.75	-28.10
UltraTech Cement	8627.05	-71.80
UPL	550.40	-5.30
Wipro	380.85	-1.35

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on November 09

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.08	83.40
Euro	88.81	89.15
British Pound	102.09	102.48
Japanese Yen (100)	54.97	55.19
Chinese Yuan	11.40	11.45
Swiss Franc	92.23	92.60
Singapore Dollar	61.19	61.44
Canadian Dollar	60.25	60.49
Malaysian Ringitt	17.70	17.78
Australian Dollar	53.18	53.39

Source:Indian Bank

Ramco Cements net rises ninefold to ₹101 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Ramco Cements Ltd.'s (RCL) standalone net profit for the September quarter rose almost ninefold to ₹101 crore from the year-earlier period on strong sales volume.

Revenue from operations rose to ₹2,329 crore from ₹1,784 crore. Raw materials cost increased 7% YoY to ₹897 per tonne due to inflationary impact on procurement cost. Sales volume rose 38% to 4.61 MT, while capacity utilisation stood at 82%.

Overall green power usage improved to 38% from 22% due to change in utility of wind power to captive purposes, Ramco said.

Ashok Leyland Q2 net more than doubles to ₹561 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Dheeraj Hinduja

Ashok Leyland Ltd. (ALL) standalone net profit for the September quarter grew almost threefold over the year earlier period to ₹561 crore.

Revenue from operations rose to ₹9,638 crore from ₹8,266 crore, while cost of materials increased to ₹6,992 crore from ₹5,832 crore, the bus and truck manufacturer said.

The results included an exceptional loss of ₹23 crore pertaining to impairment loss and write-off of intangible assets under development.

"We continue to see strong demand in all segments of trucks and passenger vehicles. The industry continues to post strong growth on the back of strong macroeconomic factors and we are confident that FY24 will see further growth in the second half as well," said ALL Executive Chairman Dheeraj Hinduja.

Chola Financial's Q2 net rises 47% to ₹888 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Cholamandalam Financial Holdings Ltd.'s (CFHL) consolidated net profit for the September quarter rose 47% to ₹888 crore from the year-earlier period.

Revenue from operations rose to ₹6,300 crore from ₹4,298 crore.

Cholamandalam Investment & Finance reported a 35% rise in net profit to ₹762 crore, while Cholamandalam MS General Insurance posted a net profit of ₹111 crore against ₹40 crore.

Cholamandalam MS Risk Services posted total income of ₹18 crore against ₹16 crore and a net profit of ₹84 lakh against ₹1.71 crore.

'Coffee output to slip 30% on untimely rains'

Mini Tejaswi
CHIKKAMAGALURU

Untimely rains have adversely hit India's coffee production this year. Information shared by coffee industry groups and planters in India's coffee heartland of Chikkamagaluru in Karnataka suggests that yields are likely to be 20-30% lower compared with the Coffee Board's post-blossom harvest estimate of 3,74,200 metric tonnes for 2023-24.

Ajoy Thipaiah, Chairman, Coffee Committee, United Planters Association of Southern India said, "coffee is already ready for harvesting when migratory labourers are away, and it is raining and there is substantial berry damage and dropping taking place in many estates".

Early harvest

Usually, the coffee harvest begins in mid-December and lasts two months.

However, this year, some of the estates in the region have already begun harvesting as berries have ripened and untimely rains are causing ripe berries to split open, decay and drop down. This is visible across plantations in Hassan and Chikkamagaluru, while estates in Coorg may also see a similar situation if rains continue beyond a week, planters say.

Karnataka accounts for more than 70% of India's coffee production.

IndiGo parent ties up with Archer to bring electric air taxi to India

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The tie-up involves purchasing 200 aircraft, building infrastructure, and training pilots

The parent company of IndiGo, InterGlobe Enterprises, and American aircraft manufacturer Archer Aviation have entered into an agreement to operate an all-electric air taxi service in India by 2026.

The two entities have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to form a proposed partnership to finance the purchase of up to 200 of Archer's Midnight aircraft for the operations in India.

The parties intend to work with select in-country business partners to operate Archer's aircraft, finance and build vertiport infrastructure, and train pilots and other personnel needed for these operations.

Archer's Midnight aircraft is a piloted, four-passenger electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft designed to fly up to 100 miles.

The aircraft, however, will require approximately 12 minutes of charge time in between.

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Tamil Nadu. Ph.: 04332 - 261600

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
232413 005126	Felling, Debarking, Stacking & Transportation of Debarked Wattle / Bluegum pulpwood from Nilgiris forest division to TNPL Unit - I, Kagithapuram.	24.11.2023
232423 003172	Felling, Debarking, Stacking & Transportation of Debarked Wattle / Bluegum pulpwood from Nilgiris forest division to TNPL Unit - II, Mondipatti.	25.11.2023
232423 003173	Supply of Green Bamboo from open market sources of Kerala to TNPL Unit - II, Mondipatti, Manaparai, Trichy District.	27.11.2023
232423 003174	Supply of Debarked Bluegum Wood Logs from open market sources of Tamilnadu to TNPL Unit - II, Mondipatti, Manaparai, Trichy District.	17.11.2023
232423 003175	Supply of Wattle Pulpwood with Bark from open market sources of Tamilnadu to TNPL Unit - II, Mondipatti, Manaparai, Trichy District.	18.11.2023
Email	purchase.wood@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed Terms & conditions are available in tender document at our website: www.tnpl.com
DIPR/5961/Tender/2023 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam-691 583
Phone: 0476-2651215 to 2651217, E-Mail: md@kmml.com, URL: www.kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

No.	Tender ID	Items
1	2023_KMML_620598_1	Tender for iron oxide pond II capping with LDPE sheets/ suitable materials in KMML

Chavara 09.11.2023 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

CIAL DUTY FREE AND RETAIL SERVICES LTD.
Kochi Airport P.O., Ernakulam - 683111

TENDER NOTICE 10-11-2023
CLOTH CARRY BAGS

The Managing Director, CIAL Duty Free and Retail Services Limited invite sealed tenders from interested agencies for the Supply of Cloth Carry Bags to CIAL Duty Free and Retail Services Ltd for a period of 2 years.

Nature of Work	EMD	Period of Issue of Tender	Cost of Tender Documents
Cloth Carry Bags	1,00,000/-	10 November 2023 to 24 November 2023 till 12.00 Noon	Rs 2360/- (Including GST)

Interested parties may collect the Tender documents from the office of CIAL Duty Free and Retail Services (CDRSL), Nedumbassery between 10 November and 24 November 2023. For more details please visit www.cochindutyfree.com or www.cial.aero
Sd/-
Managing Director

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
(World Bank-Goods/Services)

Reference No. S.E.(c) /166 Date 06.11.2023

Municipal Corporation, Amritsar Invite Bids for the following Projects funded from World Bank from the eligible bidders:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work
1	Hardware & Equipment for revamping existing IT Infrastructure in Municipal Corporation, Amritsar (RFB No. IN-MCA-356862-GO-RFB)
2	Digitization of official record of MC Amritsar. (RFB No.IN-MCA-356865-NC-RFB)

Closing Date and Time : 07.12.2023 upto 01:00 PM
Pre Bid Meeting : 27.11.2023 at 11:00 AM
For Detail log onto : https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
Note : Any Corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

Superintending Engineer(c),
Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.
Na/12/20146/2023/29655

कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम (श्रम एवं रोजगार मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार)
EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION (Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा निगम अस्पताल, पीन्या सं. 11-55-1, प्लॉट सं.1, 5वां मेन रोड (एफ.टी.आई. कैम्पस) यशवंतपुर उपनगर, यशवंतपुर, पो-ऑ. बैंगलूरू 560 022
ESIC Hospital Peenya, 55-1-11, Plot No.1, 5th Main Road (FTI Campus), Survey N. 11, Yeshwanthapur, Bengaluru-560022
Ph.No. 080-29723468, E-mail: ms-poenya.ka@esic.nic.in
सं.492-W/17/13/1/ARM/2022-PMD दिनांक/Date: 10.11.2023

निविदा सूचना / TENDER NOTICE

चिकित्सा अधीक्षक क.रा.बी.नि. अस्पताल, पीन्या ने इमारतों की वार्षिक मरम्मत, रखरखाव और संचालन और विशेष मरम्मत कार्यों को करने के लिए पात्र केंद्रीय / राज्य सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र उपक्रम (पीएसयू) / स्वायत्त निकायों से प्रतिशत के आधार पर सेंटेज शुल्क के लिए ऑनलाइन बोली (Tender ID-2023_ESIC_779663_1) प्रस्ताव आमंत्रित किया है। अनुबंध एक वर्ष के लिए क.रा.बी.नि. अस्पताल, पीन्या बेंगलुरू, कर्नाटक राज्य में कार्य निष्पादन के जमा मोड पर उपकरण और संयंत्रों की सेवाएं और संचालन / रखरखाव के लिए है। कार्य के अनुबंध को आपसी सहमति से अनुबंध अवधि के दौरान एजेंसी के संतोषजनक प्रदर्शन के आधार पर एक वर्ष की अतिरिक्त अवधि के लिए बढ़ाने का विकल्प है। निविदा का विवरण **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, www.esic.gov.in** पर उपलब्ध है। / The Medical Superintendent ESIC Hospital, Peenya invites online bid offer **(Tende ID- 2023_ESIC_779663_1)** for taking up the Annual Repairs, & Maintenance and Operation and Special repair works of buildings, services and Operation / Maintenance of Equipment and plants on deposit mode of work execution basis in the ESIC Hospital, Peenya of the Bengaluru, Karnataka state for one year from eligible Central / State Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) / Autonomous Bodies. The contract of work has an option to extend for further period of one year subject to satisfactory performance of the agency during the contract period with mutual consent. The details of the tender are available at **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app, www.esic.gov.in**

Sl. No.	Description	Schedule
01	Starting date of e-tender for submission of online	09.11.2023 09.00 AM
02	Last date and time for submission of complete tender	30.11.2023 up to 03.00 PM

ह0 / – / Sd/-
चिकित्सा अधीक्षक / **Medical Superintendent**

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
232423 003167	Imported wood chips in Bulk (Thickness Less than 6 MM), Species : (Eucalyptus Species / Acacia Species)	23.11.2023
232413 004924	Procurement of Leco Thermo Gravimetric Analyzer (TGA) with Accessories	24.11.2023
232413 005082	Procurement of Stator and Rotor (IMP)	25.11.2023
232413 005089	Procurement of Liquid Chlorine for Unit - I & II	23.11.2023
232413 005123	Procurement of Cooling water treatment Chemicals, Monitoring and Maintaining the water quality Parameters of Cooling Tower - 1 (Paltech Make), Cooling Tower - 2 (Sriram Make) and VAM for Unit - I	23.11.2023
232413 005125	Rubberizing of PM/C #3 Speed Sizer Rolls (One Set consists of one fixed applicator roll & one movable applicator roll)	23.11.2023
232423 003127	Cationic Polyelectrolyte (ultra high) - MLSS dewatering for ETP of TNPL Unit - II	24.11.2023
Email	232423003167 - purchase.pulp@tnpl.co.in 232413004924 - purchase.imp@tnpl.co.in 232413005082; 5125 - purchase.imp@tnpl.co.in 232413005089; 5123 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in 232423003127 - purchaserm.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & conditions are available in tender document at our websites: www.tnpl.com / www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
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TRENT'S DISTINCTION

Boult becomes first Kiwi bowler to claim 50 wickets in ODI WC

K. MURALI KUMAR

Trent Boult became the first New Zealand bowler to claim 50 wickets in ODI World Cup during the match against Sri Lanka in Bengaluru on Thursday. Kusal Mendis was his 50th victim in the World Cup (28 innings). Only Mitchell Starc (19) and Lasith Malinga (25) have managed to claim 50 wickets in fewer innings than Boult.

PREDICTION

India has played very well, it will win the World Cup: Kirmani

K.R. DEEPAK

Former India wicketkeeper Syed Kirmani has backed India to win the World Cup on the back of its exceptional performances in the tournament. "India will win the World Cup, they have played very well. It has been a great tournament, well hosted by India. Some of the cricket, from the team or an individual, has been amazing."

ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE

Funnier things have happened, says Teja about India contest

AP

The Netherlands believes it can pull off an upset win against India with all-rounder Teja Nidamanuru saying, "it's a game of cricket and funnier things have happened". India is the only unbeaten side in the tournament with eight wins from as many games. In contrast, Netherlands is at the bottom after the loss to England on Wednesday.

IN AND OUT

Croes replaces the injured Klein in The Netherlands squad

AFP

Noah Croes replaced the injured Ryan Klein in the Netherlands' squad for its final World Cup league game against India. Croes, who has played one ODI, was named as a replacement after Klein was ruled out due to a lower back injury. With two wins from eight games, the Netherlands is out of the semifinal race.

Kiwis 'almost' seal a semifinal spot after Sri Lankans fail to put up a challenge

New Zealand moves to sole fourth in the table, two points ahead of Pakistan and Afghanistan; a superior net run rate for Williamson's men means the other contenders need astronomical victories in their last league games for qualification

Complete performance: The Kiwi bowlers, led by Boult, right, got the ball talking and set up the side's easy victory over Sri Lanka. K. MURALI KUMAR

ODI WORLD CUP

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

New Zealand moved into prime position to grab the last World Cup semifinal spot with a comfortable five-wicket win over Sri Lanka at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Thursday.

The Kiwis (10 points) moved to sole fourth on the table, two points ahead of Pakistan and Afghanistan. New Zealand – backed by a superior net run rate – is sitting pretty in this three-team sprint. The victory was made possible primarily by a sub-standard batting show by Sri Lanka – bundled out for 171. New Zealand finished the chase in only 23.2 overs.

Devon Conway (45, 42b, 9x4) and Rachin Ravindra (42, 34b, 3x4, 3x6) put the Kiwis on the right track with an 86-run opening partnership.

Ravindra overtook Quinton de Kock (550 runs from eight innings) to become the tournament's highest run-scorer with 565 runs from nine innings.

Keeping it going

Daryl Mitchell kept the momentum high with a breezy 31-ball 43. Sri Lanka, thoroughly outplayed, ended its campaign with a whimper. It was only rain that could have scuttled New Zealand's hopes of sealing a knockout berth. The weather stayed kind, however, to ensure a full game.

Earlier, the Lankan batters displayed poor application to let the team down. Opener Pathum Nissanka and Sadeera Samarawickrama pushed hard at deliveries outside off to offer catches behind the stumps. Captain Kusal Mendis was dismissed in embarrassing fashion – skying a wild pick-up shot to third-man.

The top-order collapse left Sri Lanka at 32 for three in 4.4 overs. Kusal Perera took no half measures, going hard at loose balls to record a 28-ball 51. Charith Asalanka was the fourth to go, trapped on the pads by a Trent Boult inswinger.

Angelo Mathews (16) and Dhananjaya de Silva (19) lunged forward to left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner. Sharp turn got the better of the batters, keeping Mitchell at slip interested.

The end was nigh when Sri Lanka was stranded at 113 for eight on 23.3 overs.

Tailenders Maheesh Theekshana (38 n.o., 91b), Dushmantha Chameera (1, 20b) and Dilshan Madushanka (19, 48b) battled hard to stall New Zealand's march.

The trio did a commendable job to hang around for 23.2 overs.

Theekshana and Madushanka – reliant more on grit than skill – recorded their best ODI scores.

The late repair job, however, could not prevent a seventh Sri Lankan loss.

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
India (Q)	8	8	0	16	2.456
South Africa (Q)	8	6	2	12	1.376
Australia (Q)	8	6	2	12	0.861
New Zealand	9	5	4	10	0.743
Pakistan	8	4	4	8	0.036
Afghanistan	8	4	4	8	-0.338
England (E)	8	2	6	4	-0.885
Bangladesh (E)	8	2	6	4	-1.142
Sri Lanka (E)	9	2	7	4	-1.419
Netherlands (E)	8	2	6	4	-1.635

Q: Qualified | E: Eliminated

SCOREBOARD

SRI LANKA
Pathum Nissanka c Latham b Southee 2 *(8b)*, Kusal Perera c Santner b Ferguson 51 *(28b, 9x4, 2x6)*, Kusal Mendis c Ravindra b Boult 6 *(7b, 1x4)*, Sadeera Samarawickrama c Mitchell b Boult 1 *(2b)*, Charith Asalanka lbw b Boult 8 *(8b, 1x4)*, Angelo Mathews c Mitchell b Santner 16 *(27b, 2x4)*, Dhananjaya de Silva c Mitchell b Santner 19 *(24b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Chamika Karunaratne c Latham b Ferguson 6 *(17b, 1x4)*, Maheesh Theekshana (not out) 38 *(91b, 3x4)*, Dushmantha Chameera c Boult b Ravindra 1 *(20b)*, Dilshan Madushanka c Latham b Ravindra 19 *(48b, 2x4)*; Extras (lb-1, w-3): 4; Total (in 46.4 overs): 171.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-3 (Nissanka, 1.5 overs), 2-30 (Mendis, 4.1), 3-32 (Samarawickrama, 4.4), 4-70 (Asalanka, 8.2), 5-70 (Perera, 9.3), 6-104 (Mathews, 16.4), 7-105 (Dhananjaya, 18.3), 8-113 (Karunaratne, 23.3), 9-128 (Chameera, 32.1).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING
Boult 10-3-37-3, Southee 8-0-52-1, Ferguson 10-2-35-2, Santner 10-2-22-2, Ravindra 7.4-0-21-2, Phillips 1-0-3-0.

NEW ZEALAND
Devon Conway c Dhananjaya b Chameera 45 *(42b, 9x4)*, Rachin Ravindra c Dhananjaya b Theekshana 42 *(34b, 3x4, 3x6)*, Kane Williamson b Mathews 14 *(15b, 2x4)*, Daryl Mitchell c Asalanka b Mathews 43 *(31b, 5x4, 2x6)*, Mark Chapman run out 7 *(6b, 1x4)*, Glenn Phillips (not out) 17 *(10b, 3x4)*, Tom Latham (not out) 2 (2b); Extras (w-2): 2; Total (for five wkts. in 23.2 overs): 172.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-86 (Conway, 12.2), 2-88 (Ravindra, 13.3), 3-130 (Williamson, 18.2), 4-145 (Chapman, 20.3), 5-162 (Mitchell, 22.4).

SRI LANKA BOWLING
Madushanka 6.2-0-58-0, Theekshana 7-0-43-1, Dhananjaya 2-0-22-0, Chameera 4-1-20-1, Mathews 4-0-29-2.

Toss: New Zealand; **PoM:** Boult.
New Zealand won by five wickets with 160 deliveries to spare.

Pressure does things to the best, Boult on possible India clash

Positive sign: Ferguson will look to pull strings if the Kiwis book a semifinal clash against India. K. MURALI KUMAR

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

In all likelihood, New Zealand will face India in the World Cup semifinal at Mumbai on November 15.

For New Zealand fast bowler Trent Boult, there can be no greater thrill than taking the host nation in a World Cup knockout match.

The Indian team is on an unbeaten run in this tournament. When the two sides met in the league stage a couple of weeks ago, at Dharamshala, India won by four wickets.

Boult, however, believes that big match pressure can get to even the best in the business.

Quality players

"India has quality players who know these conditions very well. They have very, very good players, but pressure does things to the best of players," Boult said after New Zealand recorded a comprehensive victory over Sri Lanka.

Boult has good memories of the 2019 World Cup semifinal, when New Zealand edged out India by 18 runs. "I can't speak on what they (India) are thinking.

"But from our point of view, to play against the host nation – a team in red-hot form – in a World Cup, at a great ground... you couldn't script it any better.

Lot of excitement

"There'll be a lot of excitement. It doesn't get any bigger than taking on India in front of 1.5 billion people," said Boult, who scalped three wickets against Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka's tournament ended with a seventh loss in nine games. Head coach Chris Silverwood put the poor returns down to inconsistency.

"Inconsistency – it would be fair to use that word. We'll look back on certain games and rue missed opportunities.

Inconsistent

"If we'd have taken the opportunities that were put our way, this could have looked a lot different. But the fact is that we have been inconsistent," Silverwood said.

We pride ourselves on being able to evolve and grow, says Teja

Amol Karhadkar
PUNE

It started its World Cup sojourn with a fortnight-long preparatory camp in Bengaluru.

On Sunday, it will end its topsy-turvy ride in the Garden City, that too against table-topper India. Despite the Netherlands being placed at the bottom of the points table and India rolling over each of its opponents so far, the Dutch aren't throwing in the towel.

"We play our brand of cricket. We do what we do well. We have got some great manoeuvrers of the ball. We have got guys who can play spin well. We have also got guys who can take wickets," the Netherlands batter Teja Nidamanuru said after being walloped by England on Wednesday night.

Let England escape

The highlight of the Netherlands' World Cup campaign has been its win against South Africa. But the Dutch outfit – the lone non-Test playing nation to have qualified for the marquee event – let England off the hook after reducing the World champion side to 192 for six.

Despite the loss, Nidamanuru, whose unbeaten 41 was the highest score for the Netherlands on Wednesday, drew positives from the World Cup campaign for his team.

Teja Nidamanuru.
B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

> We have got guys who can play spin well

"We pride ourselves on being able to evolve and grow, which this exposure against the top nine teams in the world has done for us. So being in the last place, that's the cricket that we're playing right now," he said.

"I am sure that we will pick ourselves up and move forward in the coming tournaments. We have the T20 World Cup next year that we have already qualified for, so that's another opportunity for us to build towards.

"I have no doubt that we will definitely be causing a few upsets there and playing well and wanting to play in the semifinals as well."

This format shows who the best teams are when it comes to semifinals: Stokes

Amol Karhadkar
PUNE

The World Cup may be approaching its business end, but the debate over the format of the tournament has persisted right through the last six weeks. Ben Stokes, the England all-rounder, has given a thumbs up to the format.

With the 10 teams to play each other once, that too in conditions as varied as one gets in India, the teams that have adapted well have produced consistent performances. Stokes stressed on the same factor after setting up England's resounding win against the Netherlands on Wednesday.

"The guys who have already progressed to the semifinals have just played the best cricket overall and obviously there is different conditions to factor into that," Stokes said. "This format is the best. This format shows you who the the best teams are when it comes to semifinals rather than the sort of what was the Super 8 on group stages. You don't have anyone who is getting (through due to) the technicality or something like that. When everyone plays everyone, the teams who put the most consistent performances are always the ones going through."

Fail to turn it on: England players enjoy a moment of success in a dismal campaign as the defending champion. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

While India, Australia and South Africa have been the most consistent teams, England has had a nightmarish campaign in a bid to retain its title. Ever since it was thrashed by New Zealand in the tournament-opener, never has England looked like being a formidable unit. When asked whether he has been able to pinpoint what has gone wrong in England's campaign, Stokes didn't hold himself back, just like the way he bats.

"Everyone has been asked this and it's just simple. We have played crap. I said the same last week and it's the same." Stokes, and England, came to life a little too late for his liking.

Afghanistan, South Africa seek morale-boosting win

The Afghans would hope to put up an inspired show after the defeat against Australia while the Proteas, who surrendered meekly to India, would look to hit top form ahead of the semifinals

ODI WORLD CUP

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

Pride at stake: Afghanistan players would be hungry to bounce back after the demoralising defeat to Australia. VIJAY SONEJI

The Afghanistan cricketers and support staff spent their entire Thursday afternoon living on hope and a prayer.

They had to address a sponsored event, but the eyes of the entourage frequently darted towards their smartphone screens to find out about the scores of the New Zealand vs Sri Lanka World Cup fixture in Bengaluru.

By the time they reached the Narendra Modi Stadium for their optional training session on the eve of the last group league fixture against South Africa, Afghanistan's hopes were dented further.

With New Zealand pulling off a convincing win against Sri Lanka and inching closer to the semifinals, in all practicality, the campaign seems over for the Afghans.

Even though, mathematically, there are some vague chances, Afghanistan's net run rate of -0.338 is the worst among the three teams - New Zealand, Pakistan being the other two - vying for the fourth slot in the semifinals.

So far in the tournament, the team racked up four wins - including the ones against England and Pakistan - and as captain Hashmatullah Shahidi stated, it would be hoping to make a strong statement against South Africa, which has already reached the semifinals.

The Afghans need to pick themselves up from the improbable defeat and put up a spirited performance. The batters - Ibrahim Zadran, Shahidi, Rahmanullah Gurbaz - have all been impressive in the tournament, but a lot lies on the spinners, and at a venue that's familiar to Rashid Khan, who plays for Gujarat Titans in the IPL, he needs to play a significant role. So far in the tournament, Rashid hasn't been in his element and has struggled to find breakthroughs.

South Africa, too, are keen on bouncing back after a humiliating defeat against India. Captain Temba Bavuma, who has just scored 122 in six outings, hasn't been able to contribute significantly, and ahead of the knockouts, he needs to find form.

However, Quinton de Kock has piled on the runs in his swansong, while Heinrich Klaasen and Aiden Markram, too, have stepped up. Keshav Maharaj has been its go-to-bowler in the middle-overs, but it needs to be seen whether South Africa opts for an extra spin option of Tabraiz Shamsi.

Today's match

South Africa vs. Afghanistan
Ahmedabad, 2 p.m.

H2H IN ODIs

Played 1

South Africa	Afghanistan
1	0

EYE ON THE SKY

High: 36°C
Low: 20°C
Clear
SOURCE: IMD

It was inspiring to see Maxwell hitting with no foot movement: Miller

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

X-factor: Miller, having a look at the pitch for the Afghanistan game, said it was really special to watch Maxwell's knock. VIJAY SONEJI

Midway through the media interaction on Thursday, David Miller was asked whether Glenn Maxwell's incredible innings against Afghanistan inspired him to hit a 200 as well, batting at No.6.

"Of course," the South African replied with a smile.

It's been a couple of days since Maxwell battled severe cramps and went on to hit his career-best unbeaten 201 to guide Australia to an iconic three-wicket victory at the Wankhede Stadium.

Miller - known for hitting big sixes - believes that in the ever-changing landscape of international cricket, one needs to keep believing throughout.

"Seeing a knock like that was really special. He (Maxwell) has an X-factor, he is a match winner. It was inspiring to see no foot movement there and still hitting sixes and fours. From a game where they were dead and buried," Miller said.

"When we have chased games where we were kind of out of it as well, (we have) done certain things that were particularly special, though. But yeah, it was, I suppose, where the game of cricket is going. You kind of always believe as you go along.

"You just tick over the balls, get through the overs, and kind of see how it unfolds. And you never know what is possible," he said, "So just keep believing throughout."

Shahidi bats for more ODI games

Sports Bureau
AHMEDABAD

Shahidi... looking ahead with hope. VIJAY SONEJI

With four wins, this has been the most successful World Cup campaign for Afghanistan and captain Hashmatullah Shahidi hopes that going forward Afghanistan Cricket Board and the ICC will ensure that the team plays more ODIs.

"There will be 50-over cricket, I'm expecting that. I hope that the ICC also makes a good call on it because 50-over cricket is also important. Right now, there are too many leagues, too many T20 cricket. I think, amid that, 50 overs and Test cricket are more important," Shahidi said on Thursday.

Since August 2021, Afghanistan has featured in 31 ODIs, of which it lost 15 and one had no result. Around the same time, India featured in 53 ODIs, while Australia's tally was 36.

"If we have those games, we will definitely improve more and more. And we are expecting our cricket board and ICC to give us more matches for our improvement," Shahidi said.

Barely a couple of days ago, Glenn Maxwell stole their thunder with an unbeaten 201 and snatched a victory for Australia, but Shahidi hopes to come back stronger against South Africa. "It was not easy as a team for all of us. But still, we are in the World Cup, and as a team, we discussed it yesterday that we have to now move forward and not think too much about what happened," Shahidi said.

Will move on

"Because, if you think about it, the team's morale will go down. We will learn from it and now it's part of the history, it's gone. We have to move forward and think about tomorrow's game and we will try as a team to come back stronger and win it from there..."

'Megastar' Lanning calls time on her international career

Marvellous Meg

Titles won as skipper: T20 World Cups (2014, 2018, 2020, 2023); ODI World Cup (2022); Gold - 2022 Commonwealth Games

5 Lanning has the most number of ICC trophies as captain. Ricky Ponting has four and M.S. Dhoni three

146 Number of wins as Australia's skipper across formats, the most in women's internationals

175 Number of runs Lanning has scored in Women's T20 World Cups, the most by any batter

53.51 Highest average among batters to have batted in at least 25 Women's ODI innings

- Lanning was unbeaten in her last 35 matches as captain of Australia - the longest unbeaten streak in international cricket
- She is the only Australian woman to score 3000-plus T20I runs
- In her final year of international cricket, Lanning led Australia to victory in the ODI World Cup, T20 World Cup and Commonwealth Games

Agence France-Presse
SYDNEY

Australian women's captain Meg Lanning on Thursday retired from international cricket, walking away as one of the most prolific run-scorers and decorated leaders.

The 31-year-old top-order batter led Australia to four Twenty20 World Cup titles, one 50-over World Cup triumph, and a Commonwealth Games gold medal – earning the nickname "Megastar" for her run-scoring exploits.

After 13 years of international cricket and having captained her country on 182 occasions, Lanning said it was the "right time to move on to something new".

"Team success is why you play the game, I'm proud of what I have been able to achieve and will cherish the moments shared with teammates along the way," Lanning said in a statement.

'One of the finest'

Cricket Australia chief executive Nick Hockley praised her as "one of the finest cricketers Australia has produced."

"Under Meg's leadership, the Australian women's cricket team has built a legacy of global dominance," he said.

Lanning — all-time batting great and captain fantastic

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Glorious: An inspirational captain of an all-conquering Australian team, Lanning is one of the greatest batters the women's game has ever seen. AFP

One of cricket's most glorious innings came to an end on Thursday. Meg Lanning, who led Australia in 182 matches and was part of seven World Cup wins, has retired from international cricket. She is only 31.

An inspirational captain of an all-conquering Australian team, she is one of the greatest batters the women's game has ever seen. Earlier this year, she won over new fans in India, leading Delhi Capitals to the final of the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League.

She has been retained by the franchise and is expected to return for the new season. She was the leading scorer of the tournament with 345 runs at an average of 49.28 and a strike-rate of 139.11.

That is a fair reflection of Lanning's consistency as a batter. She averaged 53.51 in 103 ODIs, from which she amassed 4602 runs, with 15 hundreds. From her 132 T20Is, she made 3405 runs (average 36.61, strike-rate 116.37).

She made her international debut at 18 and in her second ODI, she scored an unbeaten 104 against England, becoming Australia's youngest player to score a hundred. An accomplished batter, who is admired especially for her cut shot that invariably finds the gap, she has been described by Ian Bishop as one of the handful of players that would compel him to watch.

After Harmanpreet Kaur's epic 171 not out knocked Australia out of the 2017 World Cup, Lanning was part of the leadership group that turned the side into one of the greatest of all time in any sport. Australia went on an incredible 26-game winning streak between 2018 and 2021.

Biju George was the fielding coach of the Indian team against which Australia began that great run. He then worked with Lanning at Delhi Capitals.

"She is the best captain I have ever worked with, male or female," Biju told *The Hindu*. "And she is a marvellous person, too."

Saluting a legend

There are a handful of batters in the game that made me stop what I was doing, just to watch them play. Meg Lanning was one.
IAN BISHOP

Congratulations on such a storied career, Meg! Your list of achievements in women's cricket and Australian cricket, in particular, is legendary
MITHALI RAJ

I've been privileged to have played against and alongside this legendary cricketer.. an absolutely lovely human
SHIKHA PANDEY

What an incredible record, with so many personal and team milestones. But as an outside observer, her contribution off the field, for the growth of this great game, has also been phenomenal
JONTY RHODES

Lanning did many things right in her playing days. As a captain, her decision-making was almost flawless
W.V. RAMAN

WPL players' auction on Dec. 9

ANI
MUMBAI

The players' auction for the 2024 edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) will be held in Mumbai on December 9, reported E*SPNCricinfo*. An additional purse of ₹1.5 crore will be made available to all the five teams besides the balance they are all left with from the last auction as well as after the recent player releases. 30 slots, including nine overseas, will be filled at the auction.

Recently, teams had released their retention lists and overall 60 players were retained. Out of these 60 players, 21 were overseas stars. 29 players were released from their squads. In the inaugural season of WPL, each team was given ₹12 crore to build their squads. Only two teams, the champion Mumbai Indians and UP Warriorz were able to make use of this money.

India u-19 squads, schedule released for Quadrangular

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced the schedule for the men's Under-19 One-Day quadrangular series featuring teams from England, Bangladesh and two from host India.

The tournament will be held in Vijayawada from November 13 to 27.

The India squads:

A: Saumy Kumar Pandey (Capt.), Uday Saharan (Vice-capt.), Arshin Kulkarni, Adarsh Singh, Innesh Mahajan, Md. Amaan, Digvijay Patil, M. Abhishek, Raj Limbani, Musheer Khan, Priyanshu Moliya, Aravelly Avanish Rao, Aaradhya Shukla, Sanyog Bhagwath, and Naman Tiwari.

B: Kiran Chormale (Capt.), Ansh Gosai (Vice-capt.), Rudra Mayur Patel, Vaibhav Suryavanshi, Sachin Dhas, Jayant Goyat, V.S. Karthick Manikandan, Varun Singh Bhuie, Md. Ali, P. Vignesh, Anurag Kawade, K.T. Madhava Prasad, S. Nishanth, Prem, and Dhanush Gowda.

The fixtures: Nov. 13: India A vs Bangladesh, India B vs England; **Nov. 15:** India B vs Bangladesh, India A vs England; **Nov. 17:** India A vs India B, England vs Bangladesh; **Nov. 20:** India B vs England, India A vs Bangladesh; **Nov. 22:** India A vs England, India B vs Bangladesh; **Nov. 24:** England vs Bangladesh, India A vs India B; **Nov. 27:** Final.

THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU
CRICKET WORLD CUP
TRIVIA CHALLENGE
1. Before the commencement of the 2023 ODI World Cup, who has taken the most wickets in the tournament's history?
2. As on 31 October 2023, who is the only member of the 1983 ODI World Cup squad of India who is no more?
3. Which player has won the most Man of the Match awards in ODI World Cup history as on 31 October 2023?
Visit bit.ly/wcttcterms to read the Terms & Conditions.
Scan the QR code to participate in the quiz. Top 3 winners each day will win exciting gift vouchers
Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. West Indies
2. Dennis Amiss
3. Ricky Ponting and Glenn McGrath

INBRIEF

Canada beats host Spain, Italy defeats France in BJK Cup

Canada swept host Spain 3-0 in the Billie Jean King Cup finals on Wednesday, to get off to a strong start in Group C. Earlier, Italy scored an impressive 2-1 win over France in their opening Group D tie, winning both singles rubbers.

The results:
Group D: Italy bt France 2-1 (Martina Trevisan bt Alize Cornet 2-6, 6-2, 6-2; Jasmine Paolini bt Caroline Garcia 7-6(6), 5-7, 6-4; Elisabetta Cocciaretto & Martina Trevisan lost to Caroline Garcia & Kristina Mladenovic 7-5, 2-6, 6-10.
Group C: Canada bt Spain 3-0 (Marina Stakusic bt Rebeka Masarova 6-3, 6-1; Leylah Fernandez bt Sara Sorribes Tormo 7-6(8), 7-6(7); Eugenie Bouchard & Gabriela Dabrowski bt Sorribes & Masarova 6-2, 7-5).

Rashford's tough season continues after CL red card

Marcus Rashford's difficult start to the season at Manchester United just got a bit tougher after he was shown a straight red card in the 42nd minute of United's match at FC Copenhagen in the Champions League on Wednesday for stamping on opponent Elias Jelert. Off the field, he was reprimanded by United manager Erik ten Hag last week for his decision to go to a nightclub for a pre-arranged birthday party hours after a 3-0 loss to Manchester City. Ten Hag said the player had apologised.

LIVE TELECAST

Men's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1 a.m. (Saturday)
Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.15 a.m. (Saturday)
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Saturday)
NBA: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 6 a.m. (Saturday)

United slumps to a loss at Copenhagen

Premier League club lies last in Group A; Union Berlin holds Napoli; the Reals — Madrid and Sociedad — advance along with Bayern and Inter

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Associated Press
GENEVA

On a royally good evening for standout Spanish teams, Manchester United fell in another wild loss in the Champions League on Wednesday.

Real Madrid and Real Sociedad advanced to the round-of-16 with two games to spare after impressive home wins over Portuguese opponents — 3-0 against Braga and 3-1 over Benfica.

Bayern Munich and Inter Milan also emerged victorious and will be in the knockout phase after getting key late goals from their talismanic strikers, Harry Kane and Lautaro Martínez. Kane scored in the 80th and 86th minutes in a 2-1 win over Galatasaray and Inter's 1-0 win at Salzburg was sealed by Martínez's penalty in the 85th.

Man United's 3-4 loss at Copenhagen after twice letting leads slip left coach Erik ten Hag's team last in Group A. The three-time champion seemed in total control with a two-goal lead after 28 minutes earned by forward Rasmus Hojlund.

A red card for United forward Marcus Rashford in the 42th sparked the chaos to follow, which saw Copenhagen level the score in 13 minutes of first-half stoppage time because of two pauses in play.

United led again when Bruno Fernandes scored from the spot in the 69th but could not hang on. Lukas Lerager found the net in the 83rd before 17-year-old substitute Roony Bardghji won it for the home side in the 87th.

Arsenal took a four-point lead in Group B by comfortably beating Sevilla 2-0 while PSV Eindhoven rose from last place to second with its first victory, 1-0 at home to Lens.

Napoli wasted a lead in a 1-1 draw that Union Berlin earned when David Datro Fofana scored in the 52nd.

The results:
Group A: Bayern Munich 2 (Kane 80 & 86) bt Galatasaray 1 (Bakambu 90+3); Copenhagen 4 (Elyounoussi 45, Goncalves 45+9-pen, Lerager 83, Bardghji 87) bt Manchester United 3 (Hojlund 3 & 28, Fernandes 69-pen).
Group B: Arsenal 2 (Trossard 29, Saka 64) bt Sevilla 0; Eindhoven 1 (de Jong 12) bt Lens 0.
Group C: Real Madrid 3 (Brahim Diaz 27, Vinicius 58, Rodrygo 61) bt Braga 0; Napoli 1 (Politano 39) drew with Union Berlin 1 (Fofana 52).
Group D: Salzburg 0 lost to Inter Milan 1 (Martinez 85-pen); Sociedad 3 (Merino 6, Oyarzabal 11, Barrenetxea 21) bt Benfica 1 (Rafa Silva 49).

Flash point: The red card to Rashford, second from right, derailed United, and Copenhagen pounced on the opportunity. AFP

Sahaja Yamalapalli makes the pre-quarterfinals in Charleston

TENNIS

Sports Bureau

Sahaja Yamalapalli beat fellow qualifier Dj Bennett of USA 6-4, 6-0 in the first round of the $100,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Charleston, USA.

The results: €630,705 ATP, Metz, France: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Sadio Doumbia & Fabien Reboul (Fra) bt Anirudh Chandrasekar & Bart Stevens (Ned) 6-2, 6-4.
€145,000 Challenger, Helsinki: Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals: Sriram Balaji & Andre Begemann (Ger) bt Maximilian Neuchrist & Dennis Novak (Aut) 6-4, 6-3; Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan & Vijay Sundar Prashanth bt Linus Lagerbohm (Fin) & Mark Lajal (Est) 6-2, 7-6(5).
$80,000 Challenger, Matsuyama, Japan: Doubles: Quarterfinals: JiSung Nam (Kor) & Kaichi Uchida (Jpn) bt Purav Raja & Ramkumar Ramanathan 6-2, 6-4.
$15,000 ITF men, Hua Hin, Thailand: Doubles: Quarterfinals: David Pichler (Aut) & Nitin Kumar Sinha bt Siwanat Auytayakul & Thanapet Chanta (Tha) 4-6, 7-5, [10-3].
$15,000 ITF men, Monastir: Doubles: Quarterfinals: Alexandr Binda (Ita) & Chirag Duhan bt Jurriaan Bol & Brian Bozemoj (Ned) 7-6(4) 3-6, [10-8].
$100,000 ITF women, Charleston, USA: First round: Sahaja Yamalapalli bt Dj Bennett (USA) 6-4, 6-0. **Doubles: Pre-quarterfinals:** Makenna Jones (USA) & Yuliia Starodubtseve (Ukr) bt Sahaja & Anna Zyryanova 6-3, 6-0.
$15,000 ITF women, Sharm El Sheikh: Doubles: Quarters: Paula Cembranos & Jenny Duerst (Sui) bt Humera Baharmus & Elizabeth Danailova (Bul) 6-0, 6-1.

India beats USA in IC Rod Laver junior tennis

Sports Bureau

The Indian team continued to assert its strength as it beat host USA 5-1 in the second league match of the IC Rod Laver junior challenge at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club in San Diego, California.

While Manas Dhamne, Rushil Khosla and Sohini Mohanty won their singles matches without dropping a set, Asmi Adkar lost to Shivaani Selvan. India won both the doubles matches for a resounding victory.

India was drawn to play Italy in the third league match. Italy had also won its two matches against USA and Argentina.

The results (league):
India bt USA 5-1 (Manas Dhamne bt Stiles Brockett 6-1, 6-2; Rushil Khosla bt Jonah Hill 6-4, 6-3; Asmi Adkar lost to Shivaani Sel van 4-6, 5-7; Sohini Mohanty bt Reley Rhodes 7-6(1), 6-0; Rushil & Manas bt Jonah & Stiles 6-2, 3-6, [10-2]; Asmi & Sohini bt Reley bt Shivaani 6-4, 4-6, [10-7]).

PCB accepts chief selector Inzamam's resignation

Press Trust of India
KARACHI

The rift between the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) and chief selector Inzamam-ul-Haq intensified with the country's sport's governing body accepting the former skipper's resignation amid a conflict of interest allegation. The PCB said on Thursday that it had accepted Inzamam's resignation.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O) - 35 / 2023-24

1. The Chief Engineer (World Bank Project), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge work as detailed below :
2. Nature of work : **Road work**
3. No. of work : **01 no.**
4. Tender Cost : **Rs.10,000.00 (on-line)**
5. Class of Contractor : **A / Special Class Contractor**
6. Available of bid document in the website : **From 10.00 AM of 10.11.2023 to 5.00 PM of 28.11.2023**
7. Date of opening of Bid : **Dt.29.11.2023 at 11.30 AM**
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : **https://tenderodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Engineer, World Bank Project, Odisha.
B-1224: OIPR-34003/11/0059/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF,
WATER RESOURCES, ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR.
'e' Procurement Notice No.CEMKS 10 OF 2023-24

1. Name of the Work : **Raising & Strengthening of Arakhakuda Saline Embankment within RD 2.00 Km to 11.00 Km with construction of sluices.**
2. Amount put to Tender : **Rs.21,06,05,297.00**
3. Bid Document Cost : **Rs.10,000.00** (online)
4. E.M.D. : **Rs.21,06,100.00**
5. Class of Contractor : **"Special" Class & "Super" Class**
6. Period of Completion : **18 Calendar months**
7. Other details are as follows.

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender On-line for bidding From	To	Date of Opening of Technical Bid (Cover-I)
Chief Engineer & BM, Mahanadi Kathajodi System, Bhubaneswar	CEMKS PID 04 OF 2023-24	13.11.2023 10.00 hrs	28.11.2023 17.00 hrs	29.11.2023 11.00 hrs

8. e-mail Id : **celmbbbsr@yahoo.co.in**

Further detail conditions can be seen from the Govt. website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**
The Corrigendum/cancellation of Tender , if any, will be uploaded and can be seen from the above website only.

Chief Engineer & Basin Manager,
Mahanadi Kathajodi System, Bhubaneswar
A-802: OIPR-32252/11/00013/2324

ODISHA JOINT ENTRANCE EXAMINATION-2023
(OJEE-2023)
No:- OJEE / 567 **Date: 09-11-2023**
NOTICE

This is for the information of all the candidates who have qualified in **OJEE-2023/ NEET UG 2023/ JEE(MAIN)-2023 examinations** and are interested to take admission into B.PHARM courses offered by various institutes in Odisha for the session 2023-24 that the process of choice filling and locking is scheduled to start from **10th November 2023, 5.00 PM**. Same schedule is also applicable for candidates who have qualified in **OJEE-2023/GPAT for M.Pharm examinations** and are interested to apply for admission in M. PHARM Course. Candidates are advised to visit OJEE website and carefully read the **"Counselling Brochure -2023"**, Step by Step process for web-based counselling and also see the complete **"Counselling Schedule"**.

Sd/-
CHAIRMAN, OJEE
h- 26 OIPR-14020/11/0019/2324

Phone No. : (0663) - 2412135 ; E-mail ID - eephdsbp@gmail.com
www.watcoodisha.in
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
WATER CORPORATION OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, WATCO DIVISION, SAMBALPUR
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement
Bid Identification No. GMWATCOSBP-11/2023-24 Dt.03.11.2023

1. Name of the work : 4 nos Work
2. Type of Bid : Two Bid System
3. Estimated Cost : Rs.113.31 Lakh to Rs.222.88 Lakh.
4. Period of Completion : 3 (Three) Calendar Months
5. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal : From 11.00 AM of dt.10.11.2023 to 5.00 PM of 28.11.2023
6. Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal : 5.00 PM of 28.11.2023
7. Date & Time of opening of Technical bids : At 11.30 AM of 29.11.2023
8. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid : General Manager, WATCO Division, Sambalpur, Brooks Hill, Near Stadium, At/Po - Motijharan, Dist. - Sambalpur - 768001.

Further details can be seen from web site : http:tenders.ori.nic.in or www.tendersorissa.gov.in

General Manager, WATCO Division, Sambalpur.
C-1801 : OIPR-13247/11/0015/2324

ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED
BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA, PIN:751012, Tel No.(0674) 2562020,
e-Mail: theocclltd@odishaconstruction.com
GSTIN - 21AAACO2571K2ZM
"e"-Procurement Notice No. 44 /OCCL/2023-24 (on-line)
On-line tender is invited for the following work on EPC-Turn Key Basis:

Sl No.	Brief Name of Work	Bid Identification No.	Approx. Value of work (Rs. in Crores) (excluding GST)	Bid Security (through on-line transfer / as per procedure mentioned in DTCN) (in Rs.)	Period of Completion	Availability of Tender (on-line)	Submission of tender (on-line)
01	Implementation of Underground pipe line Irrigation to the Command Area of Ong Irrigation Extension Project, Subarnapur, Odisha on EPC-Turn Key Basis.	OCCL-LSIP/02/2023-24	Rs.272.39 Crores	Rs.2,73,00,000/-	24 (Twenty Four) Calendar months	From 13.11.2023, 3.30 PM to 27.12.2023, 5.30 PM.	From 13.11.2023, 3.30 PM to 27.12.2023, 5.30 PM.

Procurement Officer : Managing Director, OCCL
Date of Opening of the Technical Bid : 28.12.2023, 12.00 Noon
Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal : https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in
MANAGING DIRECTOR
CAD-2779 OIPR-34120/11/0056/2324

Government of Karnataka
(Public Works Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division: Yadgir.
GSTIN:29BLR002252F1DR
No.EE/PWD/Divn/YDG/TS-1/e-Tender/2023-24/1732, Dated: 08.11.2023
SHORT TERM CALL-2 E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

1) Details of works: On behalf of Governor of Karnataka as per KTTP Amendment 1999-2000 Act 2000 Standard Bid Document KW-4 Karnataka Public Works Department invites item Rate Tender by Two Cover System Through e-Procurement Portal from Eligible Agency/Contractors for Work Indent No.166636/CALL-2 (Estimated Cost Rs. 250.00 Lakhs) Invited Call-2 due to the Single Bid is received before Technical Qulification as per the Instruction of SE PWD Circle, Kalaburagi to follow the Govt Order Dtd.20.03.2017. Tender Schedule as follow. **2) Date & Time for Pre-Bid Meeting:**15.11.2023 (17.30 hrs) **3) Date & Time for receipt of queries:** 16.11.2023 (17.30 hrs) 4) Last Date & Time for submission of the tender in e-procurement portal: 18.11.2023 (16.00 hrs) **5) Date & Time of Opening of the Tender/ Technical Bid:** 20.11.2023 (11.30 hrs) **6) Date & Time of Opening of the Financial Bid:** 22.11.2023 (11.30 hrs) **7) For More Details Contact:** Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division : Yadgir. **8) Website Address:** www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in
NOTE: Any Corrections / Changes will be updated in the e-Portal only

DIP/Yadagiri/188/K.S.M.C&A/2023-24
SD/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division:Yadgir.

ZILLA PANCHAYATH TUMKUR
O/o Executive Engineer, Panchayath Raj Engineering Division Tumkur-572101.
No: EE/PRED/TmK/ TND No-45/AE/2023-24 Dated: 15.02.2023
Tender Notice
TENDER NOTIFICATION No: 06/2023-24
Dated: 04.11.2023

The Short Term Tender is inviting through KPP Portal on behalf of government of Karnataka by the Executive Engineer, P.R.E.D. Tumkur, Under 2021-22 KPS School Basic Facility Scheme, 2059-PRE Maintainance and Repair and 2018-19 Chief Minister Grama Vikasa Yojana heads as per KTTP Act 2000 The Tender Documents can be obtained from the KPP Portal Web Site and submitt the details on or before Dated 20.11.2023. upto 5.00 pm. Further details can be obtained through website at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact this office during office working hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division,
Tumkur
DIPR/TUM/286/KSMCA/2023-24

KARNATAKA STATE HANDICRAFTS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.39, United Mansion, 2nd Floor, M.G. Road,
Bengaluru-560 001. Phone: 25582656/71204445/71204446
e-Mail: gmmkshdcl@gmail.com **website:** http://www.cauveryhandicrafts.com
No.KSHDCL/MKTG/1014/2023-24 Date:09.11.2023
NOTIFICATION

Karnataka State Handicrafts Development Corporation Ltd., **intends to conduct exhibition cum sale of textiles, woollen textiles, Jewellery for a period of 9 months from the date of commencement of the exhibition in separate sale counters at its following "Cauvery" Showrooms.**
(1) "Cauvery", Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporium, No.49, M.G.Road, Bengaluru-560001. **(2)** "Cauvery", Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporium No.52A, 7th "B" Main Road, Raj Complex, opp. Floating walls, Near Vinayaka Temple, Jayanagar 4th Block, Benglauru-560011. **(3)** "Cauvery", Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporium Sayyaji Rao Road, Mysuru-570001. **(4)** "Cauvery", Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporium No.5, Mysore Palace, Mysuru. **(5)** "Cauvery", Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporium No.208 A/B, 208/B 3rd Floor, Road No.01, City Central Mall Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-500034. **(6)** "Cauvery", Karnataka State Arts & Crafts Emporium No-4, State Emporia Complex, Baba Kharak Singh Marg, New Delhi-110 001.
The interested parties who wish to participate in the above said exhibition cum sale counters are required to pay Minimum Guaranteed Discount on Minimum Guarantee Sales fixed. The detailed terms and conditions along with the application pertaining to the above can be obtained on payment of **Rs. 200/-** from this office during the working hours from **10.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m.** The last date and time for submission of the duly filled application to be dropped in the drop box kept at the reception counter of the office is **on or before 15.11.2023 at 4.00 p.m.** The application received after the due date and time will not be accepted. The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any / all applications received without assigning any reason. Preference will be given to firms who have dealt with Govt. Organisation / Govt. undertaking / Govt. Boards and Corporations.

Sd/- General Manager (Marketing)

Gaurav and Sonam shatter the under-20 steeplechase marks

Minakshi finds her way into the record books in the girls' under-14 javelin gold, the next three in line — Tejaswin Dhal, Chandhini Aahla Sarimai and Dhriti Anand — also better the National mark set earlier this year

ATHLETICS

Sports Bureau
COIMBATORE

Gaurav Yadav (Madhya Pradesh), Sonam (Delhi), Kaila Syam Sundhar (Andhra Pradesh) and Minakshi (Haryana) found their way into the record books on the penultimate day of the 38th National junior athletics championship at the Nehru Stadium here on Thursday.

Gaurav and Sonam worked hard for the gold and a new record in the under-20 3000m steeplechase for boys and girls respectively.

Minakshi threw the spear to a new distance of 44.05m for the girls' under-14 javelin gold. Interestingly, the next three in line, Tejaswin Dhal (Odisha), Chandhini Aahla Sarimai (Andhra) and Dhriti Anand (Uttarkhand), also shattered the National mark of 34.46m set by Tejaswin earlier this year.

Winning effort: Aryan Patil stunned a strong field to claim the honours in the under-20 boys' high jump event. M. PERIASAMY

Stellar show: Rathish and Sharon clinched the boys' under-20 110m hurdles and long jump gold respectively. M. PERIASAMY

The results (winners): Boys: U-14: Long jump: Krishna Sharma (Del) 6.35m; **Javelin:** 1. Kishu Singh (Bih) 60.56m (MR, Old: Dhairya Alpenshbhai 57.08m, 2022). **U-16: Shot put:** Nishchay (Har) 19.51m. **80m hurdles:** Kaila Syam Sundhar Sahi (AP)10.55 (NR, Old: Maneesh Kumar Rajbhar 10.56, 2023). **U-18: 110m hurdles:** Sandip Gond (Mah) 13.79; **10,000m walk:** Amit Kumar (Chatt) 43:36.58; **Hammer:** Narpat Singh (Raj) 71.79m; **1500m:** Priyanshu (Utk) 3:49.26 (MR, Old: Arjun Waskale 3:50.38, 2021); **Decathlon:** Piyush Raj 6234; **Pole vault:** Aman Singh (MP) 4.50m; **Shot put:** Sarthak Singh (UP) 18.47m; **2000m steeplechase:** Hariom Sen (MP) 5:42.52s (NR: Old: N. Ginao Singh 5:48.09, 2000). **U-20: Long jump:** Sharon Jestus (TN) 7.70m; **High jump:** Aryan Patil (Mah) 2.06m; **1500m:** Vikash (Har) 3:49.78; **110m hurdles:** Rathish Pandidurai (TN) 14.18s; **3000m steeplechase:** Gaurav Yadav (MP) 9:00.66 (MR, Old: Mohit 9:16.46, 2022). **Girls: U-14: Long jump:** M. Jenista Shanu (TN) 5.30m; **Javelin:** 1. Minakshi (Har) 44.05m (NR, Old: Tejaswin Dhal 34.46m, 2023). **U-16: Shot put:** Anshu (Har) 15.22m; **80m hurdles:** Swanandi Sawant (Mah) 11.73s. **U-18: 100m hurdles:** Antreesa Mathew (Ker) 14.39s; **Long jump:** Ramani Kumkum B. (Guj) 5.80m; **High jump:** Pooja (Har) 1.81m (MR, Old: Rubina Yadav 1.81m, 2017); **5000m walk:** Aarti (Har) 24:02.16; **Javelin:** Deepika (Har) 54.13m (MR, Old: Pushpa Jakhar 49.05); **Hammer:** Renuka Yadav (Del) 55.33m; **2000m steeplechase:** Shreeraksha (Kar) 7:23.03s.

U-20: Javelin: Nishi Kumari (Bih) 45.00m; **100m hurdles:** Unnathi Bollanda (Kar) 13.98s; **3000m steeplechase:** Sonam (Del) 10:29.50 (NR, Old: G. Maheswari 10:34.10).

Mixed relay: Maharashtra 3:31.18s; **Hammer:** Ankita (Har) 53.37m.

Maharashtra clinches the overall championship

NATIONAL GAMES

Sports Bureau

Maharashtra, with 228 medals including 80 golds, topped the medal table and took the Raja Bhalindra Singh Trophy for the overall championship in the 37th National Games which ended in Goa on Thursday.

Maharashtra's triumph ended Services' reign at the top since the 2007 Games in Guwahati. Services finished second and Haryana was third.

Karnataka swimmer Srihari Nataraj (eight gold, one silver, one bronze) was adjudged the best male athlete of the Games.

Numero Uno: Srihari receiving the best male athlete trophy from IOA president P.T. Usha. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Gymnasts Sanyukta Prasen Kale and Pranati Nayak of Odisha (four gold, one silver medal each) were named as the best female athletes.

Final medal tally (top 5, read as State, gold, silver, bronze and total): 1. Maharashtra (80, 69, 79 = 228), 2. Services (66, 27, 33 = 126), 3. Haryana (62, 55, 75 = 192), 4. Madhya Pradesh (37, 36, 39 = 112), 5. Kerala (36, 24, 27 = 87).

Double joy for Parneet and Aditi as India wins three gold

ASIAN ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

Parneet Kaur upset Asian Games gold medallist V. Jyothi Surekha via shoot-off to win the compound women's individual title at the Asian archery in Bangkok on Thursday.

Parneet, who edged past Jyothi 145-145 (9-8) in the final, joined hands with Jyothi and Aditi Swami – the trio which had won the World Championships and the Asian Games titles earlier this year – as India pipped Chinese Taipei 234-233 for the women's team crown.

While Jyothi took a silver and a gold, Aditi claimed her second gold.

She combined with Priyansh to help the country defeat Thailand 156-151 in the mixed team title clash.

The experienced Abhishek Verma warded off a strong challenge from Korean Joo Jaehoon 147-146 for the men's individual bronze.

Indian archers had bagged two bronze medals, including one in recurve division, on Wednesday.

The results: Compound: Men: Individual: Bronze medal match: Abhishek Verma bt Joo Jaehoon (Kor) 147-146; **Women: Individual: Final:** Parneet Kaur bt V. Jyothi Surekha 145-145 (9-8). **Team: Final:** India bt Chinese Taipei 234-233. **Mixed team final:** India bt Thailand 156-151.

Parneet.

KARNATAKA ROUND UP

Karnataka makes under-23 cricket pre-quarters

Karnataka qualified for the pre-quarterfinals of the BCCI Men's U-23 State-A one day trophy following a five-wicket win over Maharashtra in Surat.
It will meet Haryana on November 17 in Delhi.
The scores:
Maharashtra 254/8 in 50 overs (Atharv Wanve 32, R.S. Hadke 27, H.A. Kate 31, Vicky Ostwal 60, S.S. Churi 53, A.C. Rohit Kumar 3/35) lost to Karnataka 255/5 in 42.3 overs (Rohan A. Patil 87, Aneeshwar Gautam 49, R. Smaran 53 n.o.).

State under-19 women zoom into last eight after win over Nagaland

Karnataka qualified for the quarterfinals of the BCCI U-19 Women's T20 Trophy after a 10-wicket win over Nagaland in Dehradun.
The scores:
Nagaland 22/7 in 20 overs lost to Karnataka 23 for no loss in 2.5 overs.

Jain University beats Annamalai University, enters semifinals

Jain University beat Annamalai University 2-1 in Thursday's quarterfinals of the South Zone inter-university women's tennis tournament at the Jain University campus in Kanakapura.
The results:
Jain bt Annamalai 2-1; SRM IST bt Bharathidasan 2-0; Madras bt Andhra 2-0; Osmania bt Anna 2-1.

Gokulam Kerala sinks Rajasthan in I-League

P.K. Ajith Kumar
KOZHIKODE

Gokulam Kerala registered its second win within four days, as it thrashed Rajasthan United 5-0, riding on a hat-trick from Alex Sanchez. Gokulam went ahead in the 33rd minute through Komron Tursonov. Sanchez made it 2-0 in the 61st minute. After V.S. Sreekuttan struck eight minutes later, Sanchez added to Rajasthan's miseries.

The results: Gokulam Kerala (Tursonov 33, Sanchez 61, 74 & 88, Sreekuttan 69) bt Rajasthan United 0. Shillong Lajong 1 (Paulino 34) drew with Neroca 1 (Reid 79).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Krishna scalps seven wickets

Krishna's seven-wicket haul (7/9) was instrumental in Visweswarapuram CC (1)'s ten-wicket win over Palar SC, Kolar in the KSCA (Group I) under-14 inter-club tournament.
The scores:
Vultures 200 in 49.5 overs (Harshvardhan Nishikanth 38, Veer R. Gowda 55, R. Dheeraj Kumar Yadav 3/10) lost to Bangalore SC 201/2 in 42.3 overs (B. Pavandeep 90, M. Tanshh Krishna 52, Ekansh Roul 26 n.o.).
Palar SC, Kolar 28 in 24.3 overs (Krishna 7/9) lost to Visweswarapuram (1) 29 for no loss in 3.3 overs.
Swastic Union (2) 489/6 in 50 overs (Arsh 87, R. Nithin 136, J. Sukruth 140, Mohammed Abdulla 55) bt Friends XI, Doddaballapura 100 in 36 overs (Vedant Kuttanchery 28, Rohan Vyas 3/14, Purab Soni 3/15).
Century Cricketers 171 in 43.5 overs (B. Keerthan 37, Tejas Subramanya 3/27, Aashwij 3/19) lost to Bharath 172/3 in 39.3 overs (Aadrith 58 n.o., Sujan Gunapal 55).
Vikram 63 in 20.3 overs (Siddarth Jayakumar 3/20, K.A. Kushal 3/18) lost to Rajajinagar Cricketers 66 for no loss in 7.5 overs (Nitish Arya 47 n.o.).
Sapphire 84 in 39 overs lost to Jupiter CA 86/2 in 19.4 overs (Rachit Das 35, Agastya Khashu 27 n.o.).
Yankees 181 in 49.4 overs (Vedant Sharma 48, Aryan Giria 41) lost to Wilson Garden 148/7 in 38 overs (Reyes Raj Madhusudhan 56 n.o.) [**On better run-rate after match was cut short by rain**].
Rajajinagar Colts 141 in 42.2 overs (Murugesh Baskar 37, V. Niraj 34, P. Monish 5/33) lost to Sir Syed Cricketers 145/2 in 29.1 overs (Mansoor Javed Eroor 57 n.o., Viraaj Gaurav 60 n.o.).
Jawans 177 in 46.3 overs (Shaurya Yadav 68, P.M. Vismai 5/15) bt National United 164 in 43.5 overs (P.M. Vismai 82, Suraj A. Bastalkar 25, Skanda Subbaiah 3/35, M. Samarth Karumbaiah 3/14).

Prathap shines with a century

Prathap top-scored with 132 as Malleswaram United defeated Hanumanthanagar by 28 runs in the KSCA (Group I) fourth division tournament.
The scores:
Malleswaram United 291 in 49.1 overs (N. Harshavardhan 63, Prathap 132, K.L. Guruprasad 5/49) bt Hanumanthanagar 263 in 48.5 overs (C.L. Yashwanth Gowda 44, Mann Bhati 35, Aryan Anand 32, Ryan B. Gonsalves 47, M. Shiva Kumar 36).
Friends XI, Doddaballapura 154 in 44.2 overs (R. Shiv 35, G.S. Raiyan Malik 3/27) bt Jayanagar Colts 144 in 48.2 overs (Vishesh Navin Reddy 30, Punith 37, B.S. Suhas 3/26).
Wadiyar 292 in 47.4 overs (Syed Muteeb Uddin 39, Mohd. Ruman 107, Asgar Pasha 64, A.U. Pradyumna 4/54) bt Jeevanbhimanagar 103 in 29.2 overs (Atish Vikram Bhosale 34, Asgar Pasha 3/29, Mohammed Ajmal 3/17).
City Gymkhana 152 in 41.3 overs (A.S. Ratan Thosh 42, S. Santhosh 3/49, K.S. Aravind 3/28, V. Akash 3/12) lost to Palace Orchard 153/7 in 36.3 overs (N.G. Vrijesh 52, Abhinav Rangappa 35, Rahul Reddy 3/35).
Lions 162 in 37.2 overs (M. Vinod Kumar 57, N. Sanjay 43, S.J. Shashank 3/46, Abhishek Saini 4/29) lost to Merchants (2) 163/6 in 33.2 overs (H.R. Rakshith 49, Abhishek Saini 28 n.o., N.J. Gowtham 33).
Young Pioneer 112 in 35.2 overs (S. Mubarak 39 n.o., S.J. Aadharsh 3/13, B.M. Kiran Kumar 4/25) lost to Friends Cricket Team 115/2 in 26.1 overs (S.J. Aadharsh 69 n.o., Vaasav Venkatesh 33 n.o.).
Blue Diamond Cricketers 209 in 47 overs (R. Pratham 35, Ravi S. Bharadakane 51, Raunak Shah 25, K.C. Avinash 38, Abhinoam G. Jacob 4/39) lost to South End SC 210/8 in 47.3 overs (K. Mahesh 60, J.A. Pranav Preetham 34, Nirmith 36 n.o., R. Pratham 3/50).
Sangam 349/8 in 50 overs (Deepak Shridhar 49, Mithun S. Patil 51, S. Gowrav 121, Puneeth S. Pai 33, K. Lakshmi Sagar 43, Subrat 4/65) bt IISC Gymkhana 224 in 47 overs (Debarshi Ghosh 48, Akshay 30, Mohammed Tabish Khan 52, M. Kiran 3/37).
Silky Town, Channaptana 169 in 45.1 overs (Sha Mudassir Uddin 40, A. Mohammed Kashif 38, H. Venkatesh 30, Benedict Raj Badiger 4/13, Raunak Singh 3/29) lost to Freelancers CC 172/6 in 33.2 overs (A. Bhaskaran 35, S. Rohit 43 n.o.).
Maharana 237 in 49.1 overs (Likith S. Gowda 70, H.R. Vijaykumar 101, Jayanth Raj 3/28) bt Victory 118 in 29.5 overs (C. Hemanth 25, S. Gagan Rao 3/31, Kaivalya Mishra 4/14).
Sparklers 192 in 44.5 overs (Nihal Bhatkalkar 54, S. Sufiyan 30, C. Tarun 3/31) bt Standard 172 in 40.3 overs (Abhishek Pasupathy 30, S. Nishal 40, Vikram Ananth 25, Shreyas 4/23).
Duleep Cricketers 201 in 43.3 overs (V. Vishnu Prasad 83, H.R. Siddesh 33, N. Niranjan 3/52) lost to Sirurpark SC 202/1 in 36.4 overs (Anish John 105 n.o., C. Arvind 29, R.K. Venkata Sunil 52 n.o.).

Double delight: Tanishka and Atharva, u-15 champions at the M.S. Ramaiah Memorial State-ranking tournament. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Bengaluru FC routs Young Challengers

Bengaluru FC thrashed Young Challengers FC 6-0 in the BDFA Super Division League football on Thursday.
The results:
BFC 6 (Satendra Singh Yadav 26 & 47, Shreyas Ketkar 34, Amay Morjkar 37, Thokchom Malemnganba Singh 39 & 65) bt Young Challengers 0; Bangalore Independents 2 (G. Prasanna Kumar 1, Saravana Kumar 12) bt Kickstart 1 (Alister Anthony 52); South United 3 (Md. Altab Hussain 36, Nikhil Mali 55 & 58) drew with Bengaluru United 3 (Jerry Onesems Pulamte 22, Ashray Bhardwaj 30, Chesterpoul Lyngdoh 41); Sporting Club Bengaluru 2 (Johanson Joseph Mathews 2, Arif Shaikh 21) bt Kodagu FC 0.

Sanjana stars for Beagles

Sanjana top-scored with 34 points as Beagles BC beat Mounts BC 79-57 in a women's semifinal league match of the State Association Cup basketball tournament on Thursday.
The results (semifinal league):
Men: Bank of Baroda 71 (Nagaraj 17, Mufeez 16) bt Mangalore 47 (Ganesh 14, Ashwij 12); Young Orions 93 (Sumanth 28, Pratyanshu 20) bt MEG & Centre 68 (Abhishek 25, Mayur 14).
Women: Beagles 79 (Sanjana 34, Mekhala 28) bt Mounts 57 (Niharika 18, Pavani 12); SWR 84 (Sathya 24, Sruthi 15) bt DYES Mysore 49 (Jeshanavi 18, Shakthi 10); Beagles 61 (Mekhala 25, Sanjana 10) bt DYES Mysore 56 (Meghana 13, Yashaswini 11); SWR 80 (Sruthi 19, Satya 15) bt Mounts 39 (Roshini 18).

Atharva and Tanishka are the champions

Atharva Nawarange and Tanishka Kapil Kalbhairav emerged the boys' and girls' under-15 singles champions respectively at the 25th MS Ramaiah Memorial State-ranking tournament on Thursday.
The results:
U-15: Boys: Atharva Nawarange bt Siddhanth Dhariwal 11-3, 11-9, 11-5; **Girls:** Tanishka Kapil Kalbhairav bt Ayushi B. Godse 11-9, 6-11, 11-6, 5-11, 11-7.

"Chhota, bada, har koi invest kar sakta hai."
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